

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

No. 34.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1841.

PRICE 6d.

ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

RELIGION BY PROXY.

To do by the instrumentality of another what is irksome to one's self—to indulge the hopes of religion without incurring the necessity of submitting to its restraints—to be relieved from the obligation of investigating with care the claims of truth, of personally communing with it from day to day, until the mind becomes assimilated to it in loveliness and purity, and of governing the conduct by its spirit and its laws, without being exposed to the risk of forfeiting its rewards—to be possessed of a passport to a happy immortality which allows those who have it to saunter thither through any bye-ways that may suit their pleasure, and in any company that may suit their taste—is what human nature both approves and loves. That species of religion will find most abettors in this world the business of which can be transacted by proxy—and where men can devolve their main duties to heaven upon a paid agent authorised to undertake them on their behalf, they will ordinarily be content to put up with many evils, and bear considerable expense, arising out of an arrangement so convenient to themselves. Hence the success, in all ages, of priestism, which is a system of mediation between man and his Maker, the purport of which is to reconcile the Supreme Governor to us without laying us under the necessity of reconciling ourselves to Him—by which, in short, rebels may continue rebels, and yet secure for themselves the fruits of obedience.

Religion begins in thought, in consideration. To inquire who He is who made us, what relation he sustains to us, and what are his will and purposes with regard to our conduct here and our destiny hereafter, is the first duty we owe to the Universal Ruler. And that system which professes to ease us from the labour and anxiety of sincere investigation, which places us in a position out of which spring simultaneously a duty and a crime unknown to reason or to revelation—the duty of submitting to be thought for, the crime of thinking for ourselves—must be regarded as a somewhat unphilosophical means to an end. A state church does this. Wherever national religion exists, wherever there is an establishment, he who moots the question, "What is the truth?" and who essays to exercise his faculties in answering it, becomes *ipso facto* a sinner and an excommunicate. This it is the business of the priesthood to settle—say rather, the business of the state acting on behalf of the priesthood. To inquire is to dissent; and dissent, whether tolerated or not, is an offence, a daring offence, against constituted authorities. They who labour to ascertain what is the divine will are, in fact, superseding that more important inquiry—what is the will of the church. Consistent members of the establishment are bound to reserve their thinking powers exclusively for worldly purposes—in religion these faculties are to be strings in the hands of the clergy by which the puppet souls of churchmen are to be moved mechanically into the attitude of faith. The state has said, "This is truth." The state clergy are bound by oath, and receive their pay, to repeat after the state, "This is truth"—and it becomes the primary duty of every subject of the realm to adopt the declaration without preliminary investigation, and blindly assent to the assertion, "This is truth."

The religion which begins in delegating to others the right of thought, and delivering up reason bound hand and foot into the power of the clergy, will end in transferring also to them the duties to which thought would lead and upon which judgment would decide. Let a mass of property be set apart by authority for the exclusive enjoyment of a certain order of men, and with an ostensible view to the accomplishment of certain purposes, and it is hard if these men do not find out an exclusive title to their possessions, and prove themselves able, and alone able, to answer the design originally contemplated. The end annexed to the pay is to make the country a christian country. The men who receive the pay recognise their obligation to fulfil the conditions of the bargain, and to do what the state declares ought to be done. Well! they constitute themselves the sole apostolic church of Christ on earth. They only have a right to be quite certain that they have the body and blood of Christ to give to the people. The members of other churches may perchance find mercy—but of their church are sure of it without a shadow of a shade of doubt. The services of the church are valid only as conducted by themselves—the sacraments dispensed by them must be efficacious. Under their mediation it is quite impossible for souls to miscarry. The baptism they administer, the absolution they pronounce, the various offices they perform, are

alone valid and successful—and of course they are both successful and valid. All this it is necessary to assume and to assert, in order to make out a sole right to the endowment. Not that the state expressly requires thus much—but that public opinion, which exerts an influence over the state, must be persuaded to this extent, in order to secure the stability of an institution felt to be so onerous. The people would hardly be content to tolerate all the mischiefs, social and political, perpetrated by priestism unless they were satisfied that priestism would carry them safely to heaven. It becomes, consequently, a matter, not of expediency merely, but of necessity, to assert on behalf of priestism that it may confidently be trusted—that it possesses all the qualifications necessary to ensure triumphant success.

But mark the effect which all this must have upon the members of the national church. So long as they are submissive—think nothing but what they are told to think—question nothing which they are taught to believe, and avail themselves without scruple of priestly services, the same having been duly paid for—what more is religion to them? Anything beyond this—any effort to lay open the heart to the purifying influence of right views of the character and government of God, is sheer methodism and cant. Does not a man become a Christian in virtue of his membership of the national church? Is not the notion of fitting one's self for heaven by the cultivation of spiritual virtue an imputation upon the efficacy of sacraments, an impudent intermeddling with what belongs to the clergy, a piece of Pharisaic arrogance which sober-minded men should avoid? The monarch, the nobility, the magistracy, the gentry, and all the respectability and worth of the country—are they not all members of the establishment? Can any man, not puffed up with intolerable conceit, doubt their christianity, or affect fears as to their ultimate safety? Have they been encouraged at any time to pay any further personal attention to religion, than a becoming submission to established rites? And has the church ever intimated doubts respecting them? Who are we that the same passport which franks them through should not suffice for us?

When we are told that but for a settled and authorised provision for the clergy religion would speedily die out of the land, we are constrained to ask, what kind of religion lives in it, as the fruit of this provision? Root out from the land all that dissent has done without the pale of the state-church, and by a reflex influence, within it, and what remains? A nation called christian, baptised christian, confirmed christian, be-rited christian—and that is all. The brutality of popular tastes, the dishonesty of trading habits, the licentiousness of aristocratic propensities—what counteracting influence did the church ever bring to bear upon these? How much has she ever done to discountenance war, or to rebuke oppression, or to diffuse intelligence, or to promote social harmony and order? What one great moral principle, once despised but now receiving universal homage, owes its exaltation to the labours of the state-paid clergy? What new sources of pure and refined enjoyment have these men ever opened to the various classes of the empire? The religion which it most conduces to their interest to promote, is a religion by proxy—which leaves them to settle accounts with heaven, and permits to the laity an indulgence of all the hopes of christianity, apart from submission to its claims upon their loyalty. A state church necessitates a grand imposture—upon the members of it, it produces a carelessness about spiritual religion, but one remove from open infidelity. Fashionable christianity is accommodating to fashionable tastes—and ritualism supersedes both purity of morals and earnestness of faith.

Could we but trace the history of our establishment, and mark its influence upon national character, we should find that against deep, intelligent, self-denying piety, it has always set its face as a flint. Hollow formality, confident reliance upon empty and frivolous rites, and an exaggerated notion of the prerogatives of the priesthood—all tending the same way, namely, to secure the church in the possession of her revenues, have in all times been the natural fruits growing out of the establishment of religion. Thus it always has been—thus it still is—and thus it will ever continue to be, whilst human nature remains the same. A stated provision for the clergy will insure the diffusion of a spurious christianity, adapted at once to hold fast the money, and to please the general tastes of the people by whom that money is furnished. All establishments lag behind the spirit of the times—and attack opinion more fiercely than vice. He who said "dissent was a more heinous crime than drunkenness," did but speak out what his brethren think, but have not

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The religion which begins in delegating to others the right of thought, and delivering up reason bound hand and foot into the power of the clergy, will end in transferring also to them the duties to which thought would lead and upon which judgment would decide. Let a mass of property be set apart by authority for the exclusive enjoyment of a certain order of men, and with an ostensible view to the accomplishment of certain purposes, and it is hard if these men do not find out an exclusive title to their possessions, and prove themselves able, and alone able, to answer the design originally contemplated. The end annexed to the pay is to make the country a christian country. The men who receive the pay recognise their obligation to fulfil the conditions of the bargain, and to do what the state declares ought to be done. Well! they constitute themselves the sole apostolic church of Christ on earth. They only have a right to be quite certain that they have the body and blood of Christ to give to the people. The members of other churches may perchance find mercy—but of their church are sure of it without a shadow of a shade of doubt. The services of the church are valid only as conducted by themselves—the sacraments dispensed by them must be efficacious. Under their mediation it is quite impossible for souls to miscarry. The baptism they administer, the absolution they pronounce, the various offices they perform, are

alone valid and successful—and of course *they* are both successful and valid. All this it is necessary to assume and to assert, in order to make out a sole right to the endowment. Not that the state expressly requires thus much—but that public opinion, which exerts an influence over the state, must be persuaded to this extent, in order to secure the stability of an institution felt to be so onerous. The people would hardly be content to tolerate all the mischiefs, social and political, perpetrated by priestism unless they were satisfied that priestism would carry them safely to heaven. It becomes, consequently, a matter, not of expediency merely, but of necessity, to assert on behalf of priestism that it may confidently be trusted—that it possesses all the qualifications necessary to ensure triumphant success.

But mark the effect which all this must have upon the members of the national church. So long as they are submissive—think nothing but what they are told to think—question nothing which they are taught to believe, and avail themselves without scruple of priestly services, the same having been duly paid for—what more is religion to them? Anything beyond this—any effort to lay open the heart to the purifying influence of right views of the character and government of God, is sheer methodism and cant. Does not a man become a Christian in virtue of his membership of the national church? Is not the notion of fitting one's self for heaven by the cultivation of spiritual virtue an imputation upon the efficacy of sacraments, an impudent intermeddling with what belongs to the clergy, a piece of Pharisaic arrogance which sober-minded men should avoid? The monarch, the nobility, the magistracy, the gentry, and all the respectability and worth of the country—are they not all members of the establishment? Can any man, not puffed up with intolerable conceit, doubt their christianity, or affect fears as to their ultimate safety? Have they been encouraged at any time to pay any further personal attention to religion, than a becoming submission to established rites? And has the church ever intimated doubts respecting them? Who are we that the same passport which franks them through should not suffice for us?

When we are told that but for a settled and authorised provision for the clergy religion would speedily die out of the land, we are constrained to ask, what kind of religion lives in it, as the fruit of this provision? Root out from the land all that dissent has done without the pale of the state-church, and by a reflex influence, within it, and what remains? A nation called christian, baptised christian, confirmed christian, be-rited christian—and that is all. The brutality of popular tastes, the dishonesty of trading habits, the licentiousness of aristocratic propensities—what counteracting influence did the church ever bring to bear upon these? How much has she ever done to discountenance war, or to rebuke oppression, or to diffuse intelligence, or to promote social harmony and order? What one great moral principle, once despised but now receiving universal homage, owes its exaltation to the labours of the state-paid clergy? What new sources of pure and refined enjoyment have these men ever opened to the various classes of the empire? The religion which it most conduces to their interest to promote, is a religion by proxy—which leaves them to settle accounts with heaven, and permits to the laity an indulgence of all the hopes of christianity, apart from submission to its claims upon their loyalty. A state church necessitates a grand imposture—upon the members of it, it produces a carelessness about spiritual religion, but one remove from open infidelity. Fashionable christianity is accommodating to fashionable tastes—and ritualism supersedes both purity of morals and earnestness of faith.

Could we but trace the history of our establishment, and mark its influence upon national character, we should find that against deep, intelligent, self-denying piety, it has always set its face as a flint. Hollow formality, confident reliance upon empty and frivolous rites, and an exaggerated notion of the prerogatives of the priesthood—all tending the same way, namely, to secure the church in the possession of her revenues, have in all times been the natural fruits growing out of the establishment of religion. Thus it always has been—thus it still is—and thus it will ever continue to be, whilst human nature remains the same. A stated provision for the clergy will insure the diffusion of a spurious christianity, adapted at once to hold fast the money, and to please the general tastes of the people by whom that money is furnished. All establishments lag behind the spirit of the times—and attack opinion more fiercely than vice. He who said "dissent was a more heinous crime than drunkenness," did but speak out what his brethren think, but have not

courage to avow. In the eye of a state church, immorality and general licentiousness of manners are trifles—thoughts, language, and conduct which expose clerical pretensions, or tend to defeat clerical rapacity, constitute the worst of sins. A churchman may have a religion without either morals or piety—a saint in whom both shine pre-eminently, unless he be a churchman, is practically held to have no religion at all. The former is sure of heaven—if the latter ever reach it, it will be peradventure.

SHOCKING DECEASE OF CHURCH-RATE AGITATION.

THE *Morning Post* records the sudden termination of practical hostility to church rates in this kingdom. "Farewell! a long farewell to all the greatness" of the Childses, and the Thorogoods, and the Baineses! The evil spirit which had vexed the clergy, and ceased not during its short reign to torment the true worshippers of the compulsory system, made its exit from this our world, at the renowned village of Tuddenham, in Suffolk. Three church-rate victims in that parish resisted payment, and "took the spoiling of their goods." Nevertheless, this mighty nation stirred not. There was no "mustering in hot haste" to cheer and support the martyrs—no subscriptions for the purchase of plate on which the names of the modern Hampdens might be inscribed. England and Scotland witnessed the heroism of these consistent voluntaries, but failed to nod approval. The church will have rest in these days. Usually her position has been such, that she could not doze for a few seconds without being troubled in one or other of her limbs with "pins and needles." The wicked sprite, ye! church-rate agitation, was sure, with all the malice of a hobgoblin, to pinch the venerable matron whenever she closed her eyes. But the kingdom has been exorcised, possibly by the new conservative government, and the demon being commanded to depart, went out at Tuddenham.

We have observed children, when at play, throw a handkerchief over their eyes and exclaim, "Nobody sees me." A certain animal, not celebrated for its gift of understanding, is accustomed when pursued to thrust its head into the first hole it can discover, and imagine itself to be safe from the ken of its pursuers. The *Morning Post*, apt type of the clergy and their female partisans, whom it essays to represent, shuts his eyes to all that is going on around him, resolutely persists in excluding knowledge from his tiny little soul, and then, through the dimness of the atmosphere in which he purposely enshrouds himself, looks out, and reports to those within that nothing is abroad. The Germans tell a fable of an eagle and a sparrow submitting to the judgment of the mole the decision of the question as to which bird could rise to the loftiest elevation. The eagle was soon out of sight—the sparrow never got beyond the range of the burrower's vision—and the sapient hole-scratcher decided for the sparrow. The *Morning Post* believes in nothing beyond what he sees—sees nothing unsuited to the narrowness of his prejudices—and through those eyes, suitable enough for creatures which spend their chief time under ground, he catches glimpse of an insignificant church rate case, in a village which few people ever heard of, observes that resistance makes no national stir, and runs down into his dark chamber in all haste, to assure his readers that dissent is all but defunct.

These hasty ebullitions of the *Post's* joy, bring up with them a considerable colouring of his wishes, but smack very slightly of his general knowledge. Church-rate agitation defunct! Ah! we fear the *Post* does not study the ecclesiastical department of our paper. The spirit of opposition to clerical exactions clean gone for ever! Why, in the very name of Childs, a suit has been "dragging its slow length along" in the Consistorial Court of Norwich, ever since the day when her Majesty, the head of the church, was married—and she has had two children—to settle a church-rate dispute of about three shillings and sixpence; and the last reported proceedings contained in the *Suffolk Chronicle*, of Saturday, 27th ult., indicate that the belligerent churchwardens are obliged to resort to the expedient of "*non mi recordo*." Defunct! Why look at Brain-tree, where the moral cowardice of one man in a matter of church rates bids fair to evoke taunts from all parties, bitter as that of Margaret to the Duke of Austria—

"And hang a calf skin on thy recreant limbs."

No! no! the spirit is not wholly laid. The list of contests in city and town, borough and village, northward and southward, which our columns exhibit week by week, prove that the spirit is far enough from being laid. Possibly, too, as the *Post* may one day find to its dismay, where outward signs of abhorrence are suppressed, hatred of the compulsory principle and of priestism is taking deeper root in the hearts of both dissenters and absenters. Let the *Post* continue to halloo on the dogs that devour, but do not protect, the flock—let clerical intolerance grow after the fashion which it now does and has done for months past—let tyranny meet nonconformists at every turn of life, and leave not its hold upon their bodies when dead! We love not these things for their own sake—but for the sake of whimpering, sleepy dissenters we rejoice to see them. If they care nothing for their principles, they will care, we imagine, for themselves—and will be obliged to join the van of the army, if it be only to insure their ultimate escape. Incontinent clergymen will whip them into activity.

One feature of the *Post's* article we had well nigh passed without due notice. Of course it not only insinuates but roundly asserts the mercenary motives of church rate martyrs. We are not careful to defend them in this particular. If their conduct does not throw a gleam of purer light into the minds of the most besotted, no reasonings of ours could do it. But we counsel the *Post* that for the sake of his protégés the clergy, the less frequently he imputes mercenary motives to their opponents, the better. People will only draw the conclusion that such articles proceed from a clerical pen,

and observe in quiet sarcasm, that from such sources any sentiments which argue an appreciation of high religious principle, must be looked for of course in vain.

CHURCH RATE CONTEST AT BRADFORD.

(From the *Leeds Mercury*).

On Monday week thirty summonses were taken out by Mr. B. B. Popplewell, the senior churchwarden, against as many individuals, for refusing to pay the impost of church rates. On Wednesday, the church rate cases were called on. Mr. Wells appeared for the churchwardens, and Messrs. George and Rawson for the defendants.

Mr. WELLS first called on Mr. CHARLES TETLEY, stuff merchant, to show cause why he refused to pay his quota of the church rate, and was proceeding, when he was stopped by Colonel TEMPEST, who inquired if there were not a suit pending in a superior court, by the decision in which the merits of this case would be determined; and whether, moreover, proceedings had not been instituted for the purpose of trying the validity of the Bradford church rate.

Mr. WELLS acknowledged that such was the fact, and referred (as we understood) to the decision of Dr. Lushington, in confirming a rate about ten days ago.

Mr. LISTER said that Dr. Lushington had only done so in order that the ultimate question, as to the power of the minority to lay a rate, might be decided in a superior court.

Mr. WELLS also stated, that proceedings had been instituted by Mr. Dale, against the churchwardens.

Col. TEMPEST said, that before coming into Court, the bench of magistrates had conferred on the subject in their private room, and suggested whether it would not be desirable to postpone all the cases until the final decision on these points was come to. He wished to know whether the defendants had any objection to this?

Mr. RAWSON replied, that they would cheerfully acquiesce in this proposition.

Mr. WELLS stated that he could not, on the part of the churchwardens, accede to such an arrangement.

Mr. RAWSON regretted that the proposal of the Bench had not been acceded to; and then said, that as Mr. Wells was determined to press the matter, if the Bench would take the case of Mr. Wm. Byles first, he believed that the step taken by Mr. Byles would have the effect of removing the whole of the cases out of their jurisdiction.

The case of Mr. Byles was consequently taken first, and Mr. WELLS began by briefly recapitulating the circumstances of the laying of the rate by the minority of the vestry meeting, and the subsequent proceedings thereon; and he put it to the Bench whether or not they deemed it necessary to go into the whole of the details.

The BENCH decided it was not necessary, on which Mr. RAWSON said that Mr. Byles' solicitors had that morning entered a caveat in the ecclesiastical court at York against the rate. He then read a letter from the proctor at York, acknowledging the receipt of the instructions to enter a caveat against the rate, and that he would enter it in court as soon as the office opened that (Wednesday) morning. This letter was dated Tuesday evening, and this Mr. Rawson contended was all that the act required them to do: and having done that, he submitted to the Bench whether their jurisdiction was not at an end.

Mr. WELLS argued that the letter read by Mr. Rawson was not sufficient evidence of a *bona fide* intention, on the part of Mr. Byles, to try the question in the ecclesiastical court, and in proof thereof he instanced the circumstance of the Pudsey church rate case, in which Mr. Richardson tendered notices to the magistrates in writing to try the validity of the rate, after which the parties paid before leaving court.

The BENCH decided that the letter read by Mr. Rawson was not sufficient evidence of a *bona fide* intention on the part of Mr. Byles to try the question.

Mr. RAWSON cited the words of the act, and contended that they had done all that the act required, and all that could possibly be done, considering the shortness of the notice. Some of the summonses had not been delivered till about nine o'clock on Monday night, and he therefore prayed the Bench to adjourn the whole of the cases till next week.

This application was resisted by Mr. Wells, and the Bench required that a written notice, signed by Mr. Byles, should be prepared and put in. Mr. Rawson accordingly prepared the notice required, which Mr. Byles signed, and the jurisdiction of the court ceased in that case.

Mr. Charles Tetley was then called, on which Mr. RAWSON contended that a caveat having been entered in the ecclesiastical court, the validity of the rate had been questioned, and that, therefore, the jurisdiction of the magistrates was at an end.

Mr. WELLS contended that each case must be decided on its own merits, and each party give satisfaction to the court of a *bona fide* intention to try the question.

The CHAIRMAN expressed his opinion to be in favour of Mr. Rawson's view of the question, but that was his opinion only.

The Bench then consulted for a few moments, when the Chairman said that there was a majority in favour of the case being adjourned, to afford time for counsel's opinion on that point.

Mr. WELLS opposed any adjournment, and questioned the sincerity of the defendant's in their alleged trial of the question.

Mr. GEORGE said, with considerable warmth, "Do you mean to charge us with telling a direct lie? I tell you it is our determination to try the validity of the rate."

Mr. WELLS disclaimed any such intention; and the Bench decided that the whole of the cases should be adjourned, without prejudice, till an eminent counsel's opinion should be obtained for their guidance.

A correspondent writes us that, in our last, Piggot's case is misrepresented—his being a suit brought against him by the churchwardens of Hornchurch and not at Romford (as stated); he living in the parish of Romford and having hitherto paid the parish church rate, considers it, with the majority of the Romford parishioners, a grievance to be compelled to pay a rate for a neighbouring parish church.

On Monday last Dr. Lushington proceeded to deliver judgment in the Hackney church rate case. The judgment was the longest and most elaborate, we believe, that the learned Dr. ever delivered, but

as the points in dispute were all of a local character and did not involve any general principle, we should not feel justified in devoting so large a space to the subject as would be necessary were we to give it entire. The various points in the allegation were as follows, and the judgment upon each was unfavourable to the parties refusing the rate:—"First, that the rate was made by the churchwardens, which ought to have been made by the trustees. Secondly, that it was invalid, because the rate ought to have been over the whole parish, instead of over that part of it which had been divided. Thirdly, that the persons who brought the suit were not in reality proper churchwardens, and that no notice had been given, agreeable to the requisition of the vestry minutes. Fourthly, that the rate was invalid, because they either had, or might have had, funds in hand, and therefore it was unnecessary. Fifthly, that, though the individuals who occupied were actually rated, yet, as to a considerable number of them, those individuals were not called upon to pay the rate themselves, but their landlords. And lastly, it was alleged that the rate itself was illegal. The learned judge concluded by observing, that, if all the facts in the allegation were fully proved, they would not invalidate the rate; and he therefore rejected the allegation.

Mr. Childs's case which has been so long pending in the Court Christian at Norwich, came on again for hearing on Monday week. Mr. Skipper prayed that the personal answers of the plaintiffs, given in at the last Court, might now be admitted. Mr. Childs said he objected to these answers on the ground of insufficiency. It would be in the recollection of the Court, that a church rate had been made a few months before the one now disputed, and that the plaintiffs alleged that this former rate was by them abandoned on a certain occasion on which they had summoned several parishioners before the justices for non-payment. In order to prove that the rate was not at that time abandoned but was really in existence when the new rate was made, he (the defendant) had counter pleaded the exact proceedings which took place before the justices, and their effect as being only that the churchwardens withdrew their informations, and did not mention the rate or its abandonment. The Court would observe, that as the plaintiffs were themselves present on that occasion, of course directed the proceedings, and had in this suit put in a plea as to what then took place, they must have some remembrance on the subject. He thought moreover, on closely examining the present answer, it would be found to amount not to a denial, but to an evasion of the point at issue. They swore they did not remember whether the conversation pleaded took place; then, as if this were in the circumstances scarcely credible, dropped down to an admission that "they had no reason to disbelieve that it did," then qualified it by a further statement that "it might," and added that they did not know what else in particular was said or done. Now he did not wish to bind them down to remember the exact words which were spoken; but the Court would observe, that in the midst of all this vague admission, denial and repetition, here was a careful abstinence from any answer as to what was the general effect or purport of the proceedings. On this, the essential part of the whole, he was entitled to their answer on oath, and he was induced to press for it, the rather because although the memory or belief of the plaintiffs was so defective on matters of fact in which they were prime movers, it became most vigorous on matters occurring at the same time, but wholly beyond their cognizance, for they went on to say they verily believed that on the occasion alluded to, the parties summoned knew they, the plaintiffs, intended to abandon the rate. Mr. Skipper said, he thought the phrase, "had no reason to disbelieve the conversation took place," containing two negatives, might be held equivalent to an admission that they believed it did take place. The Court asked whether Mr. Skipper would undertake that it should be so understood, and thereby admit the conversation pleaded. Mr. Skipper said, he had no authority to do this, and the Court hereupon said, the answers must be amended as required, and the belief or disbelief of the plaintiffs as to the effect of the proceedings in question must be stated.

Joshua Kelsall, of Quernmore, was cited before the magistrates at Lancaster, on Saturday, for neglecting to pay the sum of five shillings and tenpence halfpenny, as his rate for the repairs of the parish church in Lancaster. The information being read, Mr. Kelsall said he admitted its truth, but, as a member of the Society of Friends, he had conscientious objections to paying the rate, and therefore was constrained to refuse it. Mr. Hornby suggested that Mr. Kelsall should make a loan of the required sum to the collector; and Mr. W. B. Bolden asked Mr. K. if he would place in his hands ten shillings to be paid to the poor rate? (out of which Mr. B. would have paid the church rate). Mr. Kelsall shook his head, and said his conscience would not allow him so to act, as he objected to all such payments for the support of religion, and begged to hand to the bench a tract which contained his objections. Mr. Dawson observed it was in vain to attempt to persuade any man who conscientiously objected to church rates to make the payment as had been suggested. If the officers were to take the goods without an order being made, and a warrant of distress, it would be felony; neither could Mr. Kelsall forego his conscientious objections; if the bench proceeded, it must be by an order. It was then suggested that Mr. Kelsall and Mr. Winder the churchwarden, should retire and endeavour to compromise the matter. They did so, but in a few minutes they returned, and said no arrangement could be effected; and an order was therefore made.

On Saturday last Mr. Robert Wainhouse, Mr. Aked, and another gentleman, were summoned before the magistrates at Ward's End, Halifax, for non-payment of church rates, in the township of Upper Warley. Mr. Holroyd, solicitor, on behalf of Mr. Kitchen, the churchwarden, stated that a rate of 1s. 5½d. in the pound had been laid to meet the township's proportion of the rate, for the necessary repairs of the parish church of Halifax. Mr. M. Stocks appeared for the defendants; and was about to enter into the ground of objection which his clients entertained, when the magistrates said, that, having given the matter considerable attention, they advisedly gave the defendants a month to carry their ground of objection into the Ecclesiastical Court; but, if, at the expiration of that time, the matter was not so removed out of their jurisdiction, they should issue a distress warrant to compel payment. Mr. Stocks: "Then I am to under-

stand, that you throw the onus of taking the matter into the Ecclesiastical Court on the defendants." The Bench: "Certainly."

During the past week the church rate party of St. Mary's, Dover, have met with two signal defeats in their attempts to enforce the payment of church rates. On Monday 54 persons were summoned before the magistrates of Dover, to show cause for their non-payment of their church rates. In the early part of their proceedings the magistrates ordered the parties to pay their rates, but after about 15 or 16 cases had been heard, it was ascertained that the legality of those rates is at the present time questioned before the Ecclesiastical Court. The magistrates therefore refused any further adjudication in the matter, and ordered that the money which had that day been paid into the hands of the churchwardens by order of the court should be refunded. On Thursday the churchwardens called a vestry, for the purpose of appointing persons to audit their late accounts, and to make a new church rate. From a question put by one of the parishioners, the churchwardens stated that the outstanding debts, which they were unable to collect, amounted to about £32. They were, however, unable to tell, even within £100 or £150, what was the amount of their liabilities. The church rate party then moved that the accounts be audited, and a new rate made. Mr. Robinson moved, as an amendment, "That the vestry do stand adjourned till this day six months." The amendment having been seconded by Mr. Frazer, it was put from the chair and carried, in a full vestry, by a majority of two to one.

Sidmouth has recently furnished another victim to that most abominable and anti-scriptural impost called church rates, on the person of Mr. W. Barrett, of the Bedford Hotel, who has been rudely torn from his affectionate family and happy home to become the cheerless inmate of a gloomy prison at Exeter, for non-payment of nine pounds church rate, demanded of him by the churchwardens of this parish, alleged to be due on some uninhabited houses of which he has charge, but is not owner. The houses being uninhabited he refused to pay, consequently law proceedings were taken against him for the original sum, which, with costs, now amounts to £49; for which sum a "ministering angel" of the law arrived here last week to arrest him, but not being sufficiently acquainted with the locality, he applied to a brother catchpole of this place, who volunteered to perform the disgraceful job, and for that purpose dressed himself in his best clothes, and introduced himself into Mr. Barrett's house in a seemingly friendly manner, and thus effected his capture. Mr. B. was removed in custody to where, unfortunately for him, he will have time to ponder on the "tender mercies" of what, in solemn mockery, is called the "poor man's church."—*Western Times*.

On Thursday last a vestry meeting was held in St. John's church, Coventry, for the purpose of passing the churchwardens' accounts, and to make a rate for the ensuing year. The Rev. T. Sheepshanks, rector, took the chair. Mr. T. Kirby moved, and Mr. W. H. Gardiner seconded "That the meeting adjourn to the body of the church." This resolution the chairman distinctly refused to put to the meeting, because advised by his professional friend "that the right to adjourn rested with the chairman." Much discussion arose, when an appeal was made to Mr. H. Edger (the legal adviser of the anti-church-rate party) who stated "that the right to adjourn was declared in 'Burn's Justice' to belong to the vestry and not to the chairman," and challenged his opponent either to contradict him or produce some counter authority. The opponent at length admitted the correctness of the opinion quoted by Mr. Edger. The parishioners insisted on acting according to the law as to the right of the vestry to adjourn. The chairman again distinctly refused to put the motion to adjourn to the body of the church; but proposed to adjourn to St. John's school-room. For the sake of peace the mover and seconder of the resolution, consented to reserve this point of law to be considered elsewhere, and the whole body of parishioners followed the chairman to the school-room, whither he on his own authority adjourned the meeting. The churchwardens then read over the accounts of the last year, some of the items of which were vehemently denounced. The item of 2l. 7s. for wine for the sacrament being read, Mr. E. Goode said it must be painful for the Rev. Chairman, when officiating at the administration of the holy sacrament, to think that he and his friends brought down upon themselves the curse of those poor ratepayers, who had been distressed to provide the bread and wine of which they partook. A poor man, named Charles Smith then related the circumstances under which he had been served with a warrant of distress for the payment of the rate. He had a wife and seven children, and, in consequence of bad trade and affliction, was left without a shilling to purchase bread for his family; and, to save his furniture, had pledged his best coat to pay the rate. This statement the truth of which was confirmed by the collector, when Smith was summoned before the magistrates, drew forth a strong expression of feeling from the meeting. Mr. R. K. Rotherham moved, and Mr. T. Rotherham seconded, that a rate of 6d. in the pound be made for the service and repairs of the church for the ensuing year. Mr. E. Goode moved an amendment, the meeting be adjourned for twelve months. Mr. W. Hill seconded the amendment, which was carried with acclamation. Messrs. Rotherham demanded a poll, when there appeared—For the rate, 175; against it, 237; majority against the rate, 62. The contest acquired importance from the fact, that this is the first contest in the parish of St. John, in the memory of the present generation.

On Wednesday, the 24th instant, a vestry meeting was held at Bedworth, Warwickshire, pursuant to public notice, to levy a church rate. Mr. H. Kelley, the rector's churchwarden, proposed a rate of three-pence in the pound; which was seconded by Mr. John Rayner, the national schoolmaster, and supported by the parish churchwarden, the parish constable, and only one more individual; and opposed by twenty-seven votes. Notwithstanding this overwhelming majority, the churchwardens threaten, with the aid of "the powers that be," to levy and enforce the rate.

On Wednesday last, a meeting of the inhabitant rate-payers of the parish of St. Ann, Limehouse, was convened by the churchwardens, in the vestry-room in Church-lane, "To assist to make a rate for the repairs of the parish church." It will be remembered that the parishioners were called together last week to hear a letter read from the Lord Bishop of London on the subject of the repairs of the church,

when a resolution to consider further of the subject six months hence was carried by a majority of 46 to 37. The vestry was now much more numerously attended, and the greatest possible excitement prevailed. Mr. Lilley, the senior churchwarden, took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the Chairman said that the result of the last meeting having been unfortunately adverse to the recommendation of the Lord Bishop of the diocese, he had felt it is duty to make his lordship acquainted with the fact that the vestry had determined not to sanction the calling of a meeting to make a rate for the repairs of the church. On Saturday evening he received another letter from his lordship to the effect that it now only remained for the churchwardens to do their duty, and call a meeting to make a rate for the repairs of the church. Mr. Ford, the under warden, then moved for a sixpenny rate. Mr. Sewell said they ought to pause before they made a rate to take the loaf from the poor man's children [hear, hear]. He was a friend to the church, but he would not consent to tax others for the support of his religion. Mr. Burt then proposed as an amendment "that a rate of sixpence in the pound be not granted," which, being seconded by Mr. Glanwell, the Chairman having consulted the vestry clerk, said, the amendment being only a direct negative of the original resolution, he would not put it from the chair. Mr. Burt loudly protested against this course, but the Chairman said he was willing to incur any responsibility attached to his acts in that vestry [hear, hear], and now he was ready to tell them that the bishop had directed him to present the names of all those who objected to the rate [great confusion and uproar]. Mr. Glanwell then argued at great length on the injustice of a dissenter being obliged to pay church rates, and said that he cared nought for all ecclesiastical censure, but would oppose the payment of such rates to the last. Mr. Nathan said he cared not for the bishop or the power of the Ecclesiastical Court; he would not pay one farthing church rate. After some further discussion, the Chairman put the question, amid great confusion, and pronounced the motion for a rate to be lost by a large majority, on the show of hands. A division was afterwards made, and the numbers, on being counted, appeared—For the rate 67; against it, 96; majority, 29. A poll of the whole parish was then demanded, at the close of which the numbers were—

Individual votes against the rate.....	206
Ditto for the rate	148

Majority against the rate..... 58

An attempt was made to take the votes under Sturges Bourne's Act, and in this way the supporters of the rate claim a majority for the rate of eight.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BRAINTREE CHURCH RATE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Many of the readers of the *Nonconformist* will have heard with surprise, and perhaps with alarm also, that Mr. Burder's rate has been paid with costs, and that the proceedings against him in the Consistory Court of London to enforce payment of a rate made by the minority of a vestry meeting, have thus terminated by his submission.

For Mr. Burder's own sake, and for the good name of Essex dissenters, it is to be deeply regretted that our late champion has not had moral courage to hold on an honoured course, in unshrinking consistency with his well-known principles of religious freedom, but has been passively consenting to the payment of the rate by the hands of a near relative on his behalf—a tacit arrangement which in itself but further illustrates that "one thing wanting"—moral courage to suffer, or to act.

In his public character as the champion of a principle, and supported in this position by a public fund, Mr. Burder's conduct is amenable to public animadversion, and it is very wholesome that it should be so.

By the circumstances of his position, Mr. Burder was a trustee for the public cause, in the struggle for the rights of the majority in vestry meetings, and in abandoning he has betrayed his trust in this matter. He was, prominently, one of the representatives of dissenting principles and leaders of dissenting action upon the question of church rates, and although protected from pecuniary sacrifices by the intervention of the Braintree committee, he has shrunk from the assertion of those principles, and by his bad example greatly discouraged that action. He was one of the depositaries of public confidence for the unswerving advocacy of a great public question, supported by the confiding subscriptions of those who had no personal knowledge of Mr. Burder, but whose faith in him was their faith in man—and he has shaken that confidence, and put his associates upon their defence before the country. He has made it necessary to protest to the subscribers and the public, that the Braintree committee numbers men "good and true" to the cause they have espoused and the trust they have accepted; and that as a committee they have not abandoned and will not abandon their post, nor fail to discharge, honestly and boldly, the duties incident to their position.

Immediately after it became known that the late pending citation had been quashed by the payment of Mr. Burder's rate, the committee met, and directed the instant distribution of the following circular.

"Braintree, Nov. 27th, 1841.

"To the ratepayers of Braintree, opposed to the exaction of church rate by AN ARBITRARY MINORITY, in the name, but against the will, of the parish, in vestry assembled!

"Mr. Burder's rate having been paid by a near relative on his behalf, and the trial of the great question of the power (for in a moral or constitutional sense it were absurd to talk of the right) of any, even the smallest, minority of ratepayers, to tax the whole parish by church rate, having thus been evaded in his case—the Braintree anti-church-rate committee request that any parishioner against whom proceedings may next be taken, and who may in sincerity and truth determine to resist them, will then forthwith apply to the said committee, who are prepared as in Mr. Burder's case, to undertake the conduct of the cause, and to meet the expenses of its defence.

"SAMUEL COURTAULD, Chairman."

The rate will now be forthwith demanded of other dissenters; and as it may be reasonably hoped we are not all blessed with such friends as Mr. Burder, nor equally passive and plastic in their hands, there can be no doubt but that in the name of some honest nonconformist amongst us, the case will again, and speedily, be put in issue, and the public may still confidently rely upon the Braintree committee, that to the extent of their funds—and at present they are ample—the question now raised, of the validity of a rate made by a minority in vestry, shall be as vigorously prosecuted, and as fully and conclusively tried, as the question previously depending in the Braintree case has been—viz., that of the validity of a rate made by a minority (the churchwardens) out of vestry—equally the sequel to the refusal of a rate by a majority in public meeting.

SAMUEL COURTAULD.

Braintree, Nov. 29th, 1841.

THE "PATRIOT" AND THE SUFFRAGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—The *Patriot's* second article which I designed to notice was called forth by a request, on the part of "A Chartist," to recall or modify an observation made some time since, "implying that chartism is one of those evils which it is the province of true religion to grapple with and destroy;" and this sentiment the *Patriot* reiterates, and attempts to justify. The chartism of which he speaks he defines to be, in the language of the Rev. J. Scott of Woolwich, "the theory of an indefeasible universal right to political power." To mix up religion with party politics is always an objectionable course. But to take the main doctrine of chartism as here laid down (whether a sound one or not), and identify it with socialism for the sake of denouncing it as opposed to christianity, can answer no purpose but to bring christianity itself into contempt, and to remove still further from its influence those who may be so unthinking as to take their estimate of its character from such advocates of its claims.

But I must confine myself to one portion only of this precious production; and that your readers may have no room to suspect that they are imposed upon by a garbled statement, allow me, Mr. Editor, to lay before them the following passage entire:—

"A universal right to power is a contradiction; and, when universal suffrage is contended for upon this ground, the reason of the demand is more unreasonable and dangerous than the demand itself. If nothing more is meant by political power, in this instance, than the suffrage, the terms are unhappily chosen; for, were the suffrage universal, it would not really confer upon the individual an appreciable fraction of power. Nay, it would, we are thoroughly convinced, place the working classes more absolutely under the power of the lords of the soil and the monied classes. Political power resolves itself into either the power of the purse or that of the sword; the latter being the ultimate sanction of magistracy, while the former consists in the influence inseparable from property, and, under different modifications, forms an element and safeguard of political freedom, or an instrument of corruption and oppression. There is also the power of opinion, the power of the press, and there is the power of religion; but neither of these can be termed political power. There is again the physical force power, resident in masses; but this cannot attach to an individual, either as a right or in fact: it results from combination, and is not distinguishable from the power of the sword. An indefeasible, universal right to either physical force or political power is, therefore, an absurdity."

"A universal right to power is a contradiction;" that is the proposition to be proved. "An indefeasible, universal right to either physical force or political power is therefore an absurdity;" so the demonstration ends. But how the *quod erat demonstrandum* of the last sentence follows from anything that goes before, mortal ingenuity sufficeth not to discover. Since, then, we cannot follow the argument in this case, let us just take note of one or two salient points in what is meant to pass for it.

And first, it is quite clear that the *Patriot* is resolved to entertain no idea of any sort of political power, the effects of which are not cognisable by the senses. If he has anything to sell, he can understand well enough how any one who comes with the required sum of money has power to purchase it. If a number of men band themselves together to pull down his house, and another body come armed to resist the aggression, the power exerted on both sides is also sufficiently discernible. These are effects palpable to the senses, and by the aid of such homely illustrations the *Patriot* can comprehend how money and the sword may produce corresponding results in political institutions; but how a vote—nothing more than the unbought and peaceable expression of one man's intelligence—can be an element of political power, he cannot divine. It neither puts money in the pocket nor knocks a man down—it is neither the power of the purse nor the sword—how then can it be of any virtue in public affairs? But seriously, what but the votes of the electors has decided the character of the present House of Commons? And what but the votes of the House of Commons determines the character of the government, and decides that that government shall be still, as of old, for the benefit of the few, and not of the many. O, but if the suffrage were extended to the prescribed limit, every single vote would be lessened in value, and "would not really confer upon the individual an appreciable fraction of power." This must mean, either that complete suffrage would make a single vote of so little value as a thing to be bought and sold that it would not be worth having at all—or, that unless a man can have, in his own person, the influence of ten others in the national councils, and that by converting ten other men into so many political cyphers, he had better be without a vote altogether. Take the language employed in whatever sense you please—stripped of all disguise and gloss, it cannot but be fairly reducible to one or other of these meanings. If the former be intended, why not speak out and say that votes ought to be sold, and that what we have been used to call corruption and bribery are commendable things? If the latter interpretation be the right one—why then, akin to this is the language of the despot, who only values life that he may rule over his fellow-creatures; just so says the aristocratic landlord, who makes his tenants but so many instruments of his own will; and so, in another sphere, says the robber, who, deeming the legitimate earnings of one man's industry not enough for him, goes forth to seize the property of others.

Once more. "The physical force power," says this most astute observer of men and things, "the physical force power cannot attach to an individual, either as a right or in fact;" it is "resident in masses." Which is as much as to say, that no one man can by himself handle a pike or shoulder a musket—nay more, that no single individual can lift his hand or move his foot. How many must combine their energies before these arduous functions can be discharged, we are not informed, and must therefore get on as well as we can in our ignorance.

Until lately the *Patriot* has been the only general medium of communication between the dissenters of the United Kingdom. Were it possible to believe that the dissenters as a body, are sufficiently gullible to swallow such mere balderdash as the *Patriot* is bold enough to offer them, it must be owned that they would richly merit all the contempt they have received from men in power. When the working classes can be cajoled into patient acquiescence in the present order of things by such pitiful mockery of common sense, they will furnish stronger evidence of their unfitness for the possession of their rights than any that has yet been adduced against them. Fully confident, with you, that they will be guilty of no such meanness. I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

Lambeth, Nov. 22, 1841.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—I thank you for the promise to insert my last letter. As, however, a move is now making in the right direction, and by the right sort of men, that letter had better be withdrawn. In saying that the closing proceedings at Manchester have diffused through my very soul a bright glow of gladness, and thankfulness, and hope, and that the result will be awaited with intense anxiety, I am but giving utterance to feelings far more widely diffused than the monopolists have ever suspected.

Kettering, Nov. 25, 1841.

Yours sincerely,
W. ROBINSON.

The great lesson which every sect, and every individual of every sect, ought to learn from the history of the church, is moderation. Want of genuine moderation towards those who differ from us in religious opinions seems to be the most unaccountable thing in the world.—Bishop Watson.

GENERAL POLITICS.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The French journals of Thursday contain no news, except the trial of M. Ledru Rollin, and his condemnation to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 3,000 francs.

The Paris papers of Friday are principally occupied with the same subject. The *Constitutionnel* states, that "Notwithstanding M. Humann's promises, and efforts to reduce the budget of expenditure within the limits of the receipts, he will be obliged to present to the Chambers a statement showing a considerable deficit." The French government appears to be anxious to prove the sincerity of its pacific professions. Along the whole of the coast of the Channel and the Atlantic the preparations for defence ordered under the administration of M. Thiers were not only discontinued, but the guns placed in battery were in progress of removal to the arsenals whence they had been taken.

The papers of Saturday communicate the departure of M. de Salvandy (the newly-appointed minister of France to the court of Madrid), and which was positively to take place on Sunday morning. "This event," says the *Times*, "results from the near approach to a perfect arrangement of the differences between France and Spain. The intercourse of M. Olozaga with M. Guizot has assumed a very friendly character."

The Paris journals contain the acte d'accusation (or bill of indictment) against Quenisset, the assassin, and his alleged accomplices; but it is little more than an echo of the report of Count Bastard to the Court of Peers. The *National* observes, that the following passage, which appears in the bill of indictment prepared by the Attorney-General Hebert against Quenisset and his accomplices, deserves a special notice:—

"The shot, which was levelled too low, struck General Schneider and Colonel Levaillant's horses. A ball was found in the wound inflicted on one of the horses, and the report of the veterinary surgeon who extracted this ball says that it was directed against the princes, and that it was owing to the interposition of Providence they were not struck!"

SPAIN.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 19th ult. contains a despatch from the minister of the interior, Facundo Infante, dated Saragossa, the 16th stating that the Regent continued to enjoy excellent health, and that the most perfect tranquillity prevailed throughout the province. *El Corresponsal* of the 19th states that the anniversary of the birth of Queen Isabella II. was celebrated with the greatest enthusiasm. The different bands of music belonging to the regiments of the garrison and the national guard assembled under the balcony of the palace, and played different national airs. Salvoes of artillery were fired, and preparations were made for a general illumination.

Madrid correspondence of the 20th states that public confidence was increasing in that capital. The *Gazette* publishes the decree issued by the Regent at Saragossa, on the 17th, for the convocation of the Cortes on the 26th of December. In the preamble of the decree Espartero observes that "hitherto the budget had not been discussed," but that "this year it would be laid before the Chambers at so early a period of the session that the same inconvenience was not to be apprehended." He next announces that several organic laws and other important measures would be submitted to the deliberation of the next legislature. An extraordinary courier had been despatched with an autograph letter of Queen Isabel for Queen Victoria, congratulating her Majesty on the birth of the Duke of Cornwall. The government appeared inclined to adopt lenient measures in respect of the persons imprisoned for the late insurrection. It was even believed that orders had already been issued to liberate Messrs. Darana, Perez Vento, Salcedo, &c. The widow of General Concha had obtained passports for France, where it was understood her husband had safely arrived. The council of war met on the 20th to try twelve officers of the royal guard implicated in the revolt of the 7th ult., but, although the fiscal had demanded the penalty of death against eleven of them, it was hoped that none of them would be capitally convicted. The *Castellano* announces that the provincial deputy and commander of the national militia of Aguilar de la Frontera, M. Antonio Casilla, had been murdered in that town.

PORTUGAL.

The Cortes were prorogued on the 18th ult. by the Queen, with the usual ceremonies. The following is a translation of the Royal Speech:—

"SENHORS.—The constant and assiduous application to so many and so varied objects as have been treated of in the present session of the Cortes, imperiously requires some repose, in order that your wearied mental energies may be recruited, and prepared to resume your important labours.

"I congratulate the members of the legislature, on the zeal and diligence that they have shown in this long session for the promotion of the public welfare, and on the particular attention they have given to the objects recommended by me at the opening of the session.

"One of these, and without doubt the chief and most urgent, was to provide the state with supplies, without which it would be impossible to satisfy the numerous and long-standing engagements contracted: and to put in due order the other branches of the administration.

"I cannot but regret that the necessities of the public service, and the sacred obligations that weigh upon the nation, have compelled the imposition of some new taxes; but I am convinced that my subjects do not fail to submit cheerfully to sacrifices in which the national honour and credit are concerned.

"You have seen that public security has increased in the internal provinces; the bands that infested Algarve and part of Alentejo are considerably diminished, in consequence of measures opportunely adopted, of the zeal of the local authorities, and the efficient co-operation of the troops. This subject will continue to claim all the attention of the government.

"I thank the chambers for the subsidies voted for the public service, and the fulfilment of obligations with which the national credit is essentially bound up.

"Senhore,—The confidence I feel in your intelligence and well-known patriotism convinces me that, having withdrawn to your provinces, collecting profitable information respecting the wants and resources of the people, and considering the means required to promote the public happiness, you will return to your parliamentary labours inspired by the same noble sentiments that have hitherto directed you, and always attentive to the great end of consolidating the political institutions of the monarchy, and contributing towards the prosperity of the nation."

The Queen then declared the session closed, and immediately left for the palace, attended by the usual escort of lancers, &c.; and the senators and deputies forthwith retired.

AMERICA.

The packet-ship Patrick Henry, Captain Delano, arrived on Monday at Liverpool. She sailed from New York on the 9th inst., and has thus made the passage in 19 days. General Scott, the commander-in-chief of the United States army, had taken the field as a candidate for the presidency. A letter appears in all the papers containing an exposition of his principles. Mr. Clay, who had also been spoken of in connexion with the presidency, would not, it was thought, have any chance, now that the gallant General had avowed himself a candidate for the office of president. The citizens of New York had been engaged in their annual election for senators and assemblymen. The democratic ticket had been carried, the whigs having deserted the polls. The decided tone of the popular voice in sustaining the course of President Tyler in regard to the bank question had, although expected, a depressing influence upon speculative property and fancy stocks, and would confirm the tendency of all business to a cash basis.

THE EAST.

The Levant mail has arrived via Paris, but brings no intelligence of great importance. Letters from Syria of the 29th ult. announce that that country had again become the theatre of violence and bloodshed. On the 12th the Druses assailed with the utmost ferocity the unsuspecting Christian population, who had met to deliberate on the affairs of the Mountain, and put old men, women, and children to the sword. The Christians ran to arms, and civil war was raging throughout the country. No fewer than a hundred villages had been sacked, and Beyrout was crowded with families who had fled from the fury of the combatants. Colonel Rose, Selim Pasha, and Emir Beshir had vainly interfered to allay the insurrection.

Mehemet left Cairo on the 3d inst. for Upper Egypt, accompanied by the Copt, Basilios Bey, whom he chose to assist him in organising that province. In the meantime all the Delta, except thirty-eight villages which belong to Sheiks who are allowed to retain possession of them, is declared to be the private property of the Pasha, and is divided by him amongst his family. The fellahs, or peasants, on this property are to be the absolute slaves to the Pasha. The importation of slaves from the banks of the Niger is carried on as formerly, and they are sold as publicly in the bazaars of Egypt as sheep or other cattle.

Constantinople letters brought by this express observe that, notwithstanding the solemnity of the Ramazan, there reigned for some days great activity at the Porte, and councils were held almost daily under the presidency of the Grand Vizier. "This movement, so unusual at this period," says the correspondent of the *Times*, "is ascribed to the state of affairs in Greece, and to the conduct of its government in refusing to give satisfaction to Turkey for atrocities committed by Greeks upon Ottoman subjects at Chalcis, and to settle the question of the Turkish property illegally seized nine years ago by Greek agents, who have detained it ever since." Towards the latter end of October, the representatives of Great Britain, France, and Russia assembled at the palace of Rifaat Pasha, on the invitation of that minister, who laid before them the grievances of the Porte against Greece. Subsequently to that conference, Rifaat Pasha addressed to the three ambassadors an official note, in which, after recapitulating those grievances, he manifested a desire to see the differences pending between the two governments amicably adjusted by the interference of the three courts. The minister then added, that in case the Greek government should decline, notwithstanding the advice of the protecting powers to do justice to the claims of Turkey, the Divan would find itself under the necessity of resorting to reprisals. The reply of the ambassadors to that note had not been made public. In the mean time, the irritation against Greece was at its height in Constantinople, and the accounts received daily from that country were not of a nature to allay that spirit. A small squadron of four frigates was then fitting out with all haste in the arsenal for the coast of Greece.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Southwark was held on Wednesday last at the town hall, to congratulate her Majesty on the birth of an heir apparent to the throne. The chair was taken by J. Holmes, Esq., the high bailiff. Mr. Perkins moved the first resolution, expressive of thanks to Almighty God for the safe delivery of her Majesty. Mr. Apsley Pellatt seconded the motion, which was agreed to. A resolution to the effect that an address of congratulation on the birth of a prince, heir to the throne of Britain, be presented to her Majesty, was then proposed, when Mr. John Meynard moved as an amendment that the following addition be made to the address:—

"At the same time, we cannot but acquaint your Majesty that thousands of virtuous and modest women, your Majesty's subjects, are passing the like natural extremities upon beds of straw, without even a pillow whereon to lay their heads—that starvation and misery are pervading the whole length and breadth of the land, and we attribute this state of things to class legislation, and therefore pray your Majesty to instruct your ministers to pass a law that every male twenty-one years of age, untainted with crime, may have a vote in the election of representatives in the Commons House of Parliament."

Mr. Meynard proceeded to make some remarks in support of the amendment, when Mr. Barclay rose to order. He was not insensible of the distress pervading the kingdom, nor of the sufferings of his fellow countrymen—[cries of "sit down," "chair," "order," &c.]. Amidst great confusion, Mr. W. Wilson rose to order; the remarks of Mr. Meynard were quite appropriate to the subject [cheers]. If they admitted the amendment they must also listen to the reasons urged in support of it [cheers]. Mr. Meynard said the statements he had made were, no doubt, painful to the ears of Mr. Barclay and his friends, but how much more painful must they be to him (Mr. Meynard), who saw so much more of the extreme distress which his fellow-men were labouring under? [cheers]. Was there anything wrong in making it known to their beloved Queen? He felt satisfied that Queen Victoria would listen to their representation. Dr. Bedford said it was a great privilege to approach the throne, and they could not use it better than by exhibiting to her Majesty a true picture of the suffering and misery in which the country was involved. He cordially seconded the amendment [cheers]. After a few words from Mr. Blackmore, a working man, in support, the amendment was put from the chair, and on the show of hands being taken, the high bailiff said he was of opinion that

when a resolution to consider further of the subject six months hence was carried by a majority of 46 to 37. The vestry was now much more numerously attended, and the greatest possible excitement prevailed. Mr. Lilley, the senior churchwarden, took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the Chairman said that the result of the last meeting having been unfortunately adverse to the recommendation of the Lord Bishop of the diocese, he had felt it is duty to make his lordship acquainted with the fact that the vestry had determined not to sanction the calling of a meeting to make a rate for the repairs of the church. On Saturday evening he received another letter from his lordship to the effect that it now only remained for the churchwardens to do their duty, and call a meeting to make a rate for the repairs of the church. Mr. Ford, the under warden, then moved for a sixpenny rate. Mr. Sewell said they ought to pause before they made a rate to take the loaf from the poor man's children [hear, hear]. He was a friend to the church, but he would not consent to tax others for the support of his religion. Mr. Burt then proposed as an amendment "that a rate of sixpence in the pound be not granted," which, being seconded by Mr. Glanwell, the Chairman having consulted the vestry clerk, said, the amendment being only a direct negative of the original resolution, he would not put it from the chair. Mr. Burt loudly protested against this course, but the Chairman said he was willing to incur any responsibility attached to his acts in that vestry [hear, hear], and now he was ready to tell them that the bishop had directed him to present the names of all those who objected to the rate [great confusion and uproar]. Mr. Glanwell then argued at great length on the injustice of a dissenter being obliged to pay church rates, and said that he cared nought for all ecclesiastical censure, but would oppose the payment of such rates to the last. Mr. Nathan said he cared not for the bishop or the power of the Ecclesiastical Court; he would not pay one farthing church rate. After some further discussion, the Chairman put the question, amid great confusion, and pronounced the motion for a rate to be lost by a large majority, on the show of hands. A division was afterwards made, and the numbers, on being counted, appeared—For the rate 67; against it, 96; majority, 29. A poll of the whole parish was then demanded, at the close of which the numbers were—

Individual votes against the rate.....	206
Ditto for the rate	148

Majority against the rate..... 58

An attempt was made to take the votes under Sturges Bourne's Act, and in this way the supporters of the rate claim a majority for the rate of eight.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BRAINTREE CHURCH RATE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Many of the readers of the *Nonconformist* will have heard with surprise, and perhaps with alarm also, that Mr. Burder's rate has been paid with costs, and that the proceedings against him in the Consistory Court of London to enforce payment of a rate made by the minority of a vestry meeting, have thus terminated by his submission.

For Mr. Burder's own sake, and for the good name of Essex dissenters, it is to be deeply regretted that our late champion has not had moral courage to hold on an honoured course, in unshrinking consistency with his well-known principles of religious freedom, but has been passively consenting to the payment of the rate by the hands of a near relative on his behalf—a tacit arrangement which in itself but further illustrates that "one thing wanting"—moral courage to suffer, or to act.

In his public character as the champion of a principle, and supported in this position by a public fund, Mr. Burder's conduct is amenable to public animadversion, and it is very wholesome that it should be so.

By the circumstances of his position, Mr. Burder was a trustee for the public cause, in the struggle for the rights of the majority in vestry meetings, and in abandoning he has betrayed his trust in this matter. He was, prominently, one of the representatives of dissenting principles and leaders of dissenting action upon the question of church rates, and although protected from pecuniary sacrifices by the intervention of the Braintree committee, he has shrunk from the assertion of those principles, and by his bad example greatly discouraged that action. He was one of the depositaries of public confidence for the unswerving advocacy of a great public question, supported by the confiding subscriptions of those who had no personal knowledge of Mr. Burder, but whose faith in him was their faith in man—and he has shaken that confidence, and put his associates upon their defence before the country. He has made it necessary to protest to the subscribers and the public, that the Braintree committee numbers men "good and true" to the cause they have espoused and the trust they have accepted; and that as a committee they have not abandoned and will not abandon their post, nor fail to discharge, honestly and boldly, the duties incident to their position.

Immediately after it became known that the late pending citation had been quashed by the payment of Mr. Burder's rate, the committee met, and directed the instant distribution of the following circular.

"Braintree, Nov. 27th, 1841.

"To the ratepayers of Braintree, opposed to the exaction of church rate by AN ARBITRARY MINORITY, in the name, but against the will, of the parish, in vestry assembled!

"Mr. Burder's rate having been paid by a near relative on his behalf, and the trial of the great question of the power (for in a moral or constitutional sense it were absurd to talk of the right) of any, even the smallest, minority of ratepayers, to tax the whole parish by church rate, having thus been evaded in his case—the Braintree anti-church-rate committee request that any parishioner against whom proceedings may next be taken, and who may in sincerity and truth determine to resist them, will then forthwith apply to the said committee, who are prepared as in Mr. Burder's case, to undertake the conduct of the cause, and to meet the expenses of its defence.

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"A universal right to power is a contradiction; and, when universal suffrage is contended for upon this ground, the reason of the demand is more unreasonable and dangerous than the demand itself. If nothing more is meant by political power, in this instance, than the suffrage, the terms are unhappily chosen; for, were the suffrage universal, it would not really confer upon the individual an appreciable fraction of power. Nay, it would, we are thoroughly convinced, place the working classes more absolutely under the power of the lords of the soil and the monied classes. Political power resolves itself into either the power of the purse or that of the sword; the latter being the ultimate sanction of magistracy, while the former consists in the influence inseparable from property, and, under different modifications, forms an element and safeguard of political freedom, or an instrument of corruption and oppression. There is also the power of opinion, the power of the press, and there is the power of religion; but neither of these can be termed political power. There is again the physical force power, resident in masses; but this cannot attach to an individual, either as a right or in fact: it results from combination, and is not distinguishable from the power of the sword. An indefeasible, universal right to either physical force or political power is, therefore, an absurdity."

"A universal right to power is a contradiction:" that is the proposition to be proved. "An indefeasible, universal right to either physical force or political power is therefore an absurdity:" so the demonstration ends. But how the *quod erat demonstrandum* of the last sentence follows from anything that goes before, mortal ingenuity sufficeth not to discover. Since, then, we cannot follow the argument in this case, let us just take note of one or two salient points in what is meant to pass for it.

And first, it is quite clear that the *Patriot* is resolved to entertain no idea of any sort of political power, the effects of which are not cognisable by the senses. If he has anything to sell, he can understand well enough how any one who comes with the required sum of money has power to purchase it. If a number of men band themselves together to pull down his house, and another body come armed to resist the aggression, the power exerted on both sides is also sufficiently discernible. These are effects palpable to the senses, and by the aid of such homely illustrations the *Patriot* can comprehend how money and the sword may produce corresponding results in political institutions; but how a vote—nothing more than the unbought and peaceable expression of one man's intelligence—can be an element of political power, he cannot divine. It neither puts money in the pocket nor knocks a man down—it is neither the power of the purse nor the sword—how then can it be of any virtue in public affairs? But seriously, what but the votes of the electors has decided the character of the present House of Commons? And what but the votes of the House of Commons determines the character of the government, and decides that that government shall be still, as of old, for the benefit of the few, and not of the many. O, but if the suffrage were extended to the prescribed limit, every single vote would be lessened in value, and "would not really confer upon the individual an appreciable fraction of power." This must mean, either that complete suffrage would make a single vote of so little value as a thing to be bought and sold that it would not be worth having at all—or, that unless a man can have, in his own person, the influence of ten others in the national councils, and that by converting ten other men into so many political cyphers, he had better be without a vote altogether. Take the language employed in whatever sense you please—stripped of all disguise and gloss, it cannot but be fairly reducible to one or other of these meanings. If the former be intended, why not speak out and say that votes ought to be sold, and that what we have been used to call corruption and bribery are commendable things? If the latter interpretation be the right one—why then, akin to this is the language of the despot, who only values life that he may rule over his fellow-creatures; just so says the aristocratic landlord, who makes his tenants but so many instruments of his own will; and so, in another sphere, says the robber, who, deeming the legitimate earnings of one man's industry not enough for him, goes forth to seize the property of others.

Once more. "The physical force power," says this most astute observer of men and things, "the physical force power cannot attach to an individual, either as a right or in fact;" it is "resident in masses." Which is as much as to say, that no one man can by himself handle a pike or shoulder a musket—nay more, that no single individual can lift his hand or move his foot. How many must combine their energies before these arduous functions can be discharged, we are not informed, and must therefore get on as well as we can in our ignorance.

Until lately the *Patriot* has been the only general medium of communication between the dissenters of the United Kingdom. Were it possible to believe that the dissenters as a body, are sufficiently gullible to swallow such mere balderdash as the *Patriot* is bold enough to offer them, it must be owned that they would richly merit all the contempt they have received from men in power. When the working classes can be cajoled into patient acquiescence in the present order of things by such pitiful mockery of common sense, they will furnish stronger evidence of their unfitness for the possession of their rights than any that has yet been adduced against them. Fully confident, with you, that they will be guilty of no such meanness. I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

Lambeth, Nov. 22, 1841.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—I thank you for the promise to insert my last letter. As, however, a move is now making in the right direction, and by the right sort of men, that letter had better be withdrawn. In saying that the closing proceedings at Manchester have diffused through my very soul a bright glow of gladness, and thankfulness, and hope, and that the result will be awaited with intense anxiety, I am but giving utterance to feelings far more widely diffused than the monopolists have ever suspected.

Kettering, Nov. 25, 1841.

Yours sincerely,
W. ROBINSON.

The great lesson which every sect, and every individual of every sect, ought to learn from the history of the church, is moderation. Want of genuine moderation towards those who differ from us in religious opinions seems to be the most unaccountable thing in the world.—Bishop Watson.

GENERAL POLITICS.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The French journals of Thursday contain no news, except the trial of M. Ledru Rollin, and his condemnation to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 3,000 francs.

The Paris papers of Friday are principally occupied with the same subject. The *Constitutionnel* states, that "Notwithstanding M. Humann's promises, and efforts to reduce the budget of expenditure within the limits of the receipts, he will be obliged to present to the Chambers a statement showing a considerable deficit." The French government appears to be anxious to prove the sincerity of its pacific professions. Along the whole of the coast of the Channel and the Atlantic the preparations for defence ordered under the administration of M. Thiers were not only discontinued, but the guns placed in battery were in progress of removal to the arsenals whence they had been taken.

The papers of Saturday communicate the departure of M. de Salvandy (the newly-appointed minister of France to the court of Madrid), and which was positively to take place on Sunday morning. "This event," says the *Times*, "results from the near approach to a perfect arrangement of the differences between France and Spain. The intercourse of M. Olozaga with M. Guizot has assumed a very friendly character."

The Paris journals contain the acte d'accusation (or bill of indictment) against Quenisset, the assassin, and his alleged accomplices; but it is little more than an echo of the report of Count Bastard to the Court of Peers. The *National* observes, that the following passage, which appears in the bill of indictment prepared by the Attorney-General Hebert against Quenisset and his accomplices, deserves a special notice:—

"The shot, which was levelled too low, struck General Schneider and Colonel Levallant's horses. A ball was found in the wound inflicted on one of the horses, and the report of the veterinary surgeon who extracted this ball says that it was directed against the princes, and that it was owing to the interposition of Providence they were not struck!"

SPAIN.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 19th ult. contains a despatch from the minister of the interior, Facundo Infante, dated Saragossa, the 16th stating that the Regent continued to enjoy excellent health, and that the most perfect tranquillity prevailed throughout the province. *El Corresponsal* of the 19th states that the anniversary of the birth of Queen Isabella II. was celebrated with the greatest enthusiasm. The different bands of music belonging to the regiments of the garrison and the national guard assembled under the balcony of the palace, and played different national airs. Salvoes of artillery were fired, and preparations were made for a general illumination.

Madrid correspondence of the 20th states that public confidence was increasing in that capital. The *Gazette* publishes the decree issued by the Regent at Saragossa, on the 17th, for the convocation of the Cortes on the 26th of December. In the preamble of the decree Espartero observes that "hitherto the budget had not been discussed," but that "this year it would be laid before the Chambers at so early a period of the session that the same inconvenience was not to be apprehended." He next announces that several organic laws and other important measures would be submitted to the deliberation of the next legislature. An extraordinary courier had been despatched with an autograph letter of Queen Isabel for Queen Victoria, congratulating her Majesty on the birth of the Duke of Cornwall. The government appeared inclined to adopt lenient measures in respect of the persons imprisoned for the late insurrection. It was even believed that orders had already been issued to liberate Messrs. Darana, Perez Vento, Salcedo, &c. The widow of General Concha had obtained passports for France, where it was understood her husband had safely arrived. The council of war met on the 20th to try twelve officers of the royal guard implicated in the revolt of the 7th ult., but, although the fiscal had demanded the penalty of death against eleven of them, it was hoped that none of them would be capitally convicted. The *Castellano* announces that the provincial deputy and commander of the national militia of Aguilar de la Frontera, M. Antonio Casilla, had been murdered in that town.

PORTUGAL.

The Cortes were prorogued on the 18th ult. by the Queen, with the usual ceremonies. The following is a translation of the Royal Speech:—

"SENHORS,—The constant and assiduous application to so many and so varied objects as have been treated of in the present session of the Cortes, imperiously requires some repose, in order that your wearied mental energies may be recruited, and prepared to resume your important labours.

"I congratulate the members of the legislature, on the zeal and diligence that they have shown in this long session for the promotion of the public welfare, and on the particular attention they have given to the objects recommended by me at the opening of the session.

"One of these, and without doubt the chief and most urgent, was to provide the state with supplies, without which it would be impossible to satisfy the numerous and long-standing engagements contracted: and to put in due order the other branches of the administration.

"I cannot but regret that the necessities of the public service, and the sacred obligations that weigh upon the nation, have compelled the imposition of some new taxes; but I am convinced that my subjects do not fail to submit cheerfully to sacrifices in which the national honour and credit are concerned.

"You have seen that public security has increased in the internal provinces; the bands that infested Algarve and part of Alentejo are considerably diminished, in consequence of measures opportunely adopted, of the zeal of the local authorities, and the efficient co-operation of the troops. This subject will continue to claim all the attention of the government.

"I thank the chambers for the subsidies voted for the public service, and the fulfilment of obligations with which the national credit is essentially bound up.

"Senhords,—The confidence I feel in your intelligence and well-known patriotism convinces me that, having withdrawn to your provinces, collecting profitable information respecting the wants and resources of the people, and considering the means required to promote the public happiness, you will return to your parliamentary labours inspired by the same noble sentiments that have hitherto directed you, and always attentive to the great end of consolidating the political institutions of the monarchy, and contributing towards the prosperity of the nation."

The Queen then declared the session closed, and immediately left for the palace, attended by the usual escort of lancers, &c.; and the senators and deputies forthwith retired.

AMERICA.

The packet-ship Patrick Henry, Captain Delano, arrived on Monday at Liverpool. She sailed from New York on the 9th inst., and has thus made the passage in 19 days. General Scott, the commander-in-chief of the United States army, had taken the field as a candidate for the presidency. A letter appears in all the papers containing an exposition of his principles. Mr. Clay, who had also been spoken of in connexion with the presidency, would not, it was thought, have any chance, now that the gallant General had avowed himself a candidate for the office of president. The citizens of New York had been engaged in their annual election for senators and assemblymen. The democratic ticket had been carried, the whigs having deserted the polls. The decided tone of the popular voice in sustaining the course of President Tyler in regard to the bank question had, although expected, a depressing influence upon speculative property and fancy stocks, and would confirm the tendency of all business to a cash basis.

THE EAST.

The Levant mail has arrived via Paris, but brings no intelligence of great importance. Letters from Syria of the 29th ult. announce that that country had again become the theatre of violence and bloodshed. On the 12th the Druses assailed with the utmost ferocity the unsuspecting Christian population, who had met to deliberate on the affairs of the Mountain, and put old men, women, and children to the sword. The Christians ran to arms, and civil war was raging throughout the country. No fewer than a hundred villages had been sacked, and Beyrout was crowded with families who had fled from the fury of the combatants. Colonel Rose, Selim Pasha, and Emir Beshir had vainly interfered to allay the insurrection.

Mehemet left Cairo on the 3d inst. for Upper Egypt, accompanied by the Copt, Basilios Bey, whom he chose to assist him in organising that province. In the meantime all the Delta, except thirty-eight villages which belong to Sheiks who are allowed to retain possession of them, is declared to be the private property of the Pasha, and is divided by him amongst his family. The fellahs, or peasants, on this property are to be the absolute slaves to the Pasha. The importation of slaves from the banks of the Niger is carried on as formerly, and they are sold as publicly in the bazaars of Egypt as sheep or other cattle.

Constantinople letters brought by this express observe that, notwithstanding the solemnity of the Ramazan, there reigned for some days great activity at the Porte, and councils were held almost daily under the presidency of the Grand Vizier. "This movement, so unusual at this period," says the correspondent of the *Times*, "is ascribed to the state of affairs in Greece, and to the conduct of its government in refusing to give satisfaction to Turkey for atrocities committed by Greeks upon Ottoman subjects at Chalchis, and to settle the question of the Turkish property illegally seized nine years ago by Greek agents, who have detained it ever since." Towards the latter end of October, the representatives of Great Britain, France, and Russia assembled at the palace of Rifaat Pasha, on the invitation of that minister, who laid before them the grievances of the Porte against Greece. Subsequently to that conference, Rifaat Pasha addressed to the three ambassadors an official note, in which, after recapitulating those grievances, he manifested a desire to see the differences pending between the two governments amicably adjusted by the interference of the three courts. The minister then added, that in case the Greek government should decline, notwithstanding the advice of the protecting powers to do justice to the claims of Turkey, the Divan would find itself under the necessity of resorting to reprisals. The reply of the ambassadors to that note had not been made public. In the mean time, the irritation against Greece was at its height in Constantinople, and the accounts received daily from that country were not of a nature to allay that spirit. A small squadron of four frigates was then fitting out with all haste in the arsenal for the coast of Greece.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Southwark was held on Wednesday last at the town hall, to congratulate her Majesty on the birth of an heir apparent to the throne. The chair was taken by J. Holmes, Esq., the high bailiff. Mr. Perkins moved the first resolution, expressive of thanks to Almighty God for the safe delivery of her Majesty. Mr. Apsley Pellatt seconded the motion, which was agreed to. A resolution to the effect that an address of congratulation on the birth of a prince, heir to the throne of Britain, be presented to her Majesty, was then proposed, when Mr. John Meynard moved as an amendment that the following addition be made to the address:—

"At the same time, we cannot but acquaint your Majesty that thousands of virtuous and modest women, your Majesty's subjects, are passing the like natural extremities upon beds of straw, without even a pillow whereon to lay their heads—that starvation and misery are pervading the whole length and breadth of the land, and we attribute this state of things to class legislation, and therefore pray your Majesty to instruct your ministers to pass a law that every male twenty-one years of age, untainted with crime, may have a vote in the election of representatives in the Commons House of Parliament."

Mr. Meynard proceeded to make some remarks in support of the amendment, when Mr. Barclay rose to order. He was not insensible of the distress pervading the kingdom, nor of the sufferings of his fellow countrymen—[cries of "sit down," "chair," "order," &c.]. Amidst great confusion, Mr. W. Wilson rose to order; the remarks of Mr. Meynard were quite appropriate to the subject [cheers]. If they admitted the amendment they must also listen to the reasons urged in support of it [cheers]. Mr. Meynard said the statements he had made were, no doubt, painful to the ears of Mr. Barclay and his friends, but how much more painful must they be to him (Mr. Meynard), who saw so much more of the extreme distress which his fellow-men were labouring under? [cheers]. Was there anything wrong in making it known to their beloved Queen? He felt satisfied that Queen Victoria would listen to their representation. Dr. Bedford said it was a great privilege to approach the throne, and they could not use it better than by exhibiting to her Majesty a true picture of the suffering and misery in which the country was involved. He cordially seconded the amendment [cheers]. After a few words from Mr. Blackmore, a working man, in support, the amendment was put from the chair, and on the show of hands being taken, the high bailiff said he was of opinion that

the amendment was carried. This announcement was received with tremendous cheering and waving of hats in the body of the hall. When the applause had somewhat subsided, Mr. Meynard moved that the address be presented to her Majesty by the high bailiff, John Holmes, Esq., Benjamin Wood, Esq., M.P., Alderman Humphrey, Esq., M.P., Dr. Bedford, and William Wilson, Esq., which was agreed to unanimously.

On Tuesday week a public vestry and meeting of the parishioners was held in the vestry room of the church of the parish of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, for the purpose of considering the propriety of presenting an address to the Queen, on the birth of a Prince. The Rev. T. S. Simpson, the vicar, having taken the chair, which he claimed as his privilege, according to the vestries act, Mr. Ware, the vestry clerk, proceeded to read the notice of meeting, when he was stopped by Mr. Bewdley, who contested the right claimed by their vicar, and observed that, as, by the vestries act, a vestry meeting could only be called for parochial purposes, the object they were assembled upon that evening would not be legal. He moved, That the churchwardens take the chair. After a desultory discussion as to the power of the churchwardens to call the meeting for the purpose specified, Mr. Gough moved, and a parishioner seconded, that the address, as prepared, be read. Mr. Bewdley moved that the vestry adjourn; which being seconded, the Rev. Chairman put the amendment, which was carried. Mr. Dyson, a chartist, now proposed three cheers for the amendment, which was opposed by the chairman, the churchwardens, and several parishioners. The cheers, however, were given, and loudly responded to; and the meeting separated.

A meeting of the deputies of the three denominations of dissenters was held last week, at which loyal addresses of congratulation to her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Duchess of Kent, were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Nicholson and other gentlemen who exerted themselves to get up the preliminary meeting on the subject of the distress of the inhabitants of the extensive district of Spitalfields, waited upon the Lord Mayor on Thursday for the purpose of postponing the great meeting, of which notice had been given. He stated that they had found it a harder task than they at first considered it to be to get ready by Friday, the day spoken of as the most proper. They therefore waited upon the Lord Mayor with the following notice, to which they requested the sanction of his lordship:—"The distress in Spitalfields having been found to be of greater extent than was in the first instance known to the gentlemen who are anxious for a general meeting in the city, it is considered expedient to postpone the meeting intended to be held on Friday next, to give time for the formation of committees, and to enable them to collect the fullest information as to the nature and extent of the distress. A number of highly respectable parties have already agreed to act upon the committees, and their names will be advertised as soon as the list is filled up. Subscriptions will in the mean time be most thankfully received by the right hon. the Lord Mayor." The Lord Mayor approved of the determination to postpone the meeting, and expressed his belief that when it should be called, after the necessary preparations and deliberations, it would prove to be one of great efficacy in accomplishing the object of the benevolent.

A Court of Comr. Council was held on Thursday at the Mansion house, for the purpose of presenting to Major-General Sir Charles Felix Smith the freedom of the City for his gallant conduct in Syria. The chamberlain (Sir James Shaw), with the usual forms, swore in the new citizen, and then, in a complimentary speech, presented the gallant officer with the freedom in a magnificent box, the counterpart of those presented by the corporation to Sir Robert Stopford and Commodore Napier. Sir Charles then spoke his acknowledgment of the honour conferred on him.

A public examination of the children in the Orphan Working school, City road, took place on Thursday, before a numerous assemblage of its friends and supporters. The children were examined in the sacred scriptures, reading, geography, mental arithmetic, grammar, and other branches of a useful education. They acquitted themselves admirably, and all parties seemed pleased with this first public exhibition of their talents. Some neat specimens of turning and cabinet work, also some maps and drawings, the work of the boys, and needlework by the girls, were laid on the table.

The Commissioners of Woods and Forests have determined on annexing a piece of ground used as the kitchen garden to Kensington Palace to the respective parishes of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, and Paddington; they will also exchange with the Provost of Eton College certain land belonging to the Crown near Eton, for about 53 acres of ground around and including Primrose-hill; and also make certain improvements so as to form a new road and entrances from the Bayswater road to Knightsbridge.

The defective state of the old wood pavement opposite St. Giles's church, is being remedied by the introduction of a new wood pavement on the improved principle of Mr. Rankin's patent: from the peculiar construction of the blocks, it is laid down with great rapidity, and with a precision which excites the surprise of a host of curious spectators who crowd around the workmen. The blocks are formed like wedges, the lower blocks are placed with their basis towards the earth, and are made of elm; the upper blocks have the apexes downwards, and are closely wedged into the angles formed between the lower ones; they are of larch. The whole forms a solid flooring of wood, convexing slightly, and being constructed to resist weight upon the principle of the arch, the abutments being the masonry of the foot pavement. The surface is indented with transverse grooves formed by the manner in which the blocks unite, that it is impossible a horse can slip from want of foothold in the most slippery weather. This experiment will test most searchingly the merits of this mode of wood paving; as there is perhaps no part of the streets of London in which a more incessant transit of omnibuses, carts, cabs, &c., and heavy vehicles, takes place than the thoroughfare in which it is now being laid down.

In the works connected with the Southampton railway, at Nine-elms and Vauxhall, more activity than usual has been displayed during the past week, preparatory to opening the branches which extend to Portsmouth, Gosport, and Fareham. Between six and seven hundred men are employed daily upon the labour and business required by the trains, goods, &c.

The directors and several of the subscribers to the Thames tunnel used it as a thoroughfare, for the first time, on Wednesday. The Wapping end of the passage will be completed in about three weeks.

The following notice was issued by the Bank of England on the 25th—The Governor and Company of the Bank of England are ready, until further notice, to receive applications for loans upon the deposit of approved bills of exchange, not having more than six months to run, Exchequer bills, and East India bonds; such loans to be repaid on or before the 14th of January next, with interest at 5 per cent. per annum, and to be for sums of not less than 2,000*l.* each.

It has long been foreseen that the Exchequer bill affair must provide some employment for the courts of law, and that all holders of spurious bills, finding that the government refused in any way to acknowledge them, would seek that other remedy. The name of Lord Strangford has been already before the public in this affair, and no one doubts his protestation against any knowledge of, or participation in, the original fraud. But this, unfortunately, does not wholly protect his lordship from the consequences of having induced parties to invest their money in these bills, which afterwards, on investigation, turned out to be spurious, and it is currently stated in the city that he has been served with a notice of action by Messrs. Coutts and Co., connected with some such bills, of which that house has become possessed. The subject is expected to exercise all sorts of ingenuity on both sides, on the part of the gentlemen of the long robe. The Exchequer bills held by Messrs. Coutts and Co. are understood to amount to 40,000*l.* There are other houses and private individuals in similar circumstances.—*Times*.

Thursday being the last day of term, at about a quarter to eleven o'clock Lord Denman adjourned the court. His lordship went through the greater part of the bar. Counsel were either not in attendance, or were not ready when their respective cases were called on, upon which his lordship, in great displeasure, retired. The chagrin and disappointment of parties on the last day of term were very visible.

PROVINCIAL.

On Friday, Nov. 26, a grand entertainment was given in the Guildhall, Lichfield, by the reformers of that city, to their two liberal representatives, Lord Alfred Paget and Lord Leveson, in celebration of the triumph obtained over the tory party at the last election. The room was beautifully decorated with flags, bearing appropriate mottoes and devices, and an excellent band of music was in attendance during the evening. Upwards of 600 gentlemen, including the most staunch and influential reformers of the city and neighbourhood, sat down to dinner. The chair was ably filled by E. Wyatt, Esq., the Mayor of the city, who was supported on his right and left by the noble guests of the evening.

The greatest and most effective meeting yet held in Bury, Lancashire, to consider the corn laws, was convened on Wednesday evening last. The school-room attached to Brunswick chapel was filled with an assembly of respectable and intelligent auditors. Six hundred sat down to tea and other refreshments, which were served in abundance. During part of the evening nearly eight hundred were present. J. Grundy, jun., Esq., was called on to preside, and opened the proceedings by calling on R. Walker, Esq., M.P. for the borough. The hon. gent., in clear and strong terms, declared his adherence to the cause, and his reasons for upholding a free trade with all nations. Edmund Grundy, Esq., of Park Hills, an old and tried reformer, next addressed the audience in an energetic appeal, which was replete with facts and arguments. The Revs. J. B. Shepherd and W. Roseman, ministers in the town, in brief and argumentative speeches, declared their hostility to the laws which restrict the food of the people as unjust and impolitic. J. Bright, Esq., of Rochdale, and the Rev. J. W. Massie, of Salford, attended by request of the local anti-corn-law association, and during their lengthened and powerful speeches discussed the subject in its principles and operations; in its general aspect and minute details. The applause which welcomed these appeals, and followed these speakers when they sat down, showed that the large and intelligent company had fully entered into the question, and decidedly condemned the legislation which would oppress one for the gain of another class, or would interpose between the merciful provision of a bountiful Creator and his suffering children.—*Manchester Times*.

The deputation appointed by the public meeting of the inhabitants of Plymouth to present the address to Lord John Russell have received the following reply:—

"GENTLEMEN—I am deeply sensible of the kindness and confidence which have induced the inhabitants of Plymouth to vote the address you have just presented to me.

"The late administration endeavoured to relieve the country from those taxes which are paid to the landowners, to the West India planters, and other favoured classes, at the expense of the community at large. They attempted, above all, to subject the admission of foreign corn to a known and moderate duty, in place of a scale so curiously adjusted, that it baulks the farmer at one moment and starves the people at another, while it defrauds the revenue at all times.

"The whole strength of monopoly, however, joined with the compact forces of an adverse party, defeated our efforts, and have placed a new ministry in power.

"Still, if the people are united, prohibitions and prohibitory duties will share the fate of civil disabilities on religious grounds, the slavery of our negro fellow-subjects, and other works of darkness. Nor is it necessary for this purpose that the late ministry should be restored to power—the men who surrendered what they deemed the essential bulwarks of the church and the constitution to the menaces of the Roman Catholic Association of Ireland, will be sure to yield the fortresses of commercial restriction when they shall be summoned to do so by the peaceful, but powerful, voice of the people of England and Scotland.

"Those who have resigned office have the satisfaction of thinking, that with the exception of the obstacles which self-interest opposes to the measures necessary for restoring our trade to a sound condition, and thereby invigorating our finances, they have left their successors an easy task. The suppression of sedition at home, without suspending the constitution, or the odious employment of spies; the rule of Ireland in conformity with the wishes of the great majority of its inhabitants; the establishment of just principles of government in our colonies, together with a firm but pacific policy abroad, have made the empire so strong that none but the grossest incapacity can endanger its fortunes or impair its reputation.

"*Endsleigh, November 25.*"

On Monday week the splendid and valuable plate, which has been raised by subscription, was presented to Mr. Baines, of Leeds. The present consists of a candelabrum, or centre piece, for the dining table, 31 inches high, and four silver covered dishes, richly ornamented *en suite*, weighing together 700 ounces. The ceremony took place in the saloon of the music hall, T. W. Tottie, Esq., in the chair. Speeches

having been delivered by the chairman, Mr. Alderman Bateson, Mr. J. H. Shaw, Mr. W. West, Mr. H. H. Stansfield, Mr. Alderman Goodman, and the Rev. R. W. Hamilton, the chairman said it only remained for him, in discharge of his official duty, to offer to Mr. Baines those testimonials from his friends and fellow-townsmen, in admiration of the integrity, zeal, and ability with which he had advocated the principles of civil and religious liberty during a public life of more than forty years, and to evince their gratitude for his important services as the faithful and indefatigable representative of the borough of Leeds in three successive parliaments. The whole of the audience then rose simultaneously, and continued standing during the ceremony of presentation. Mr. Baines, in reply, said he felt more grateful than he had language to express; and proceeded to remark that the great principles of civil and religious liberty had been those which had always guided and governed his political career. He then alluded to the changes which had taken place, and said, although he had been a public man for the last forty years, the great reforms had been nearly all effected within the last ten years, under the mild and beneficent sway of a liberal administration. After thanking the company for his handsome present, he resumed his seat amidst great cheering.

In Manchester it has been resolved to abstain, on the occasion of the birth of an heir to the throne of these realms, from all public festivities, and to appropriate the sums which would, under other circumstances, have been expended in public rejoicings, to the relief of the vast multitudes of operatives now steeped to the ears in want and wretchedness. The fund to be so collected is to be called the Loyal Fund. No matter by what name it be called, provided the money be raised, and the existing distress be diminished. At Manchester, the idea promises to be worked out with great success. Mr. Mark Phillips puts his name down for 50*l.*; Mr. Cobden for 20*l.*; and a tory clergyman for 10*l.* Large sums were also subscribed by others the moment the suggestion was made.—*Sun.*

A correspondent of the *Globe* thus describes the state of Nottingham—"Hundreds are starving on straw beds, without food, fire, or covering; and these are people who would work if they could get it. Each day parties of men, with starvation in their looks and dressed in absolute rags, have been parading the town in processions of two, three, and four hundred, carrying a board, on which is printed in large letters—'distressed and out of work.' Other parties, to the number of thirty or forty, drag carts loaded with sand through the streets, and beg from door to door. The relief list at the union workhouse contains 3,600 recipients. The house itself has 900 inmates crammed within its walls. * * * Besides those receiving parish relief, upwards of 2,000 are starving. Distress and gaunt misery haunt the whole town. Trade is dead; not a single master employs full hands."

A public meeting of deputies from the clothing district of the West Riding of Yorkshire will be held on the 8th or 14th of December, to take into consideration the distress which prevails from the operation of the corn laws. The cotton district will meet at Manchester on the 16th of the same month for the same purpose, and all the great manufacturing districts in Lancashire are to adopt the same plan.

Private letters from Manchester, advertising to the failure of Gisborne, Wilson, and Co., the calico printers, state the amount of liabilities at about 80,000*l.* The immediate cause of the stoppage is referred to the Bank of Manchester, which stands as a creditor for 6,000*l.* This is the very precise bank, it will be remembered, which allowed one of its directors to overrun his account by 30,000*l.*, and then compounded with him for ten shillings in the pound, without publishing a word about the matter, so that his credit should not be affected, and continuing him besides as one of the bank directors, which, of course, helped to sustain his credit as high as ever. Many people are inclined to think that the then and all creditors since of that insolvent director, who after all did not pay the bank the 10*s.* poundage composition, have a legal and justifiable claim upon the bank for payment of their debts in full, upon the principle of false credit and character so directly and indirectly given him by the bank.—*Morning Paper.*

The investigation into the affairs of the Chichester "Old Bank," which ensued upon the failure of that establishment a few days ago, has led to a result which has vastly increased the consternation and distress that unexpected event had previously produced, viz., the apprehension and committal for trial of two of the clerks of the late firm for defrauding it of monies to a large amount. The delinquents are Mr. Wm. Styles Goodeve, the chief clerk, and Mr. Wm. Williams, a junior clerk. It is understood that the frauds which have already been detected as committed by these persons nearly amount to 20,000*l.* So recently as the 28th day of October, Goodeve fraudulently obtained a sum of 5,000*l.*, and on two former occasions, sums of 3,500*l.* and 6,000*l.* Both he and Williams were apprehended, and, after an examination before the mayor, which was strictly private, were committed for trial. Bail to a large amount was offered for Mr. Goodeve, but was refused. The whole affair of the bank and of its failure seems to be involved in mystery. Although a fiat has been issued, it has not been acted on, and the late partners are still in uncontrolled possession of the monies, books, and other property of the bank.—*Local paper.*

The ironmasters of Staffordshire and South Wales, to save themselves from the ruin arising from the low price of iron, have agreed to diminish the make of iron one-fourth for six months, and accordingly a certain number of furnaces will be blown out on the first of December, and of course one fourth of the workmen now employed, as colliers, miners, &c., will then be discharged.—*Staffordshire Gazette.*

A rumour is given in the *Derby and Chesterfield Reporter*, that the extensive cotton mills, at Burton-on-Trent, recently closed, are about to be occupied by a new species of manufacture—viz., tape and brace making. It is said that 100 hands will be required immediately.

The telegraph communication between London and Dover, will be opened in a few days. The intermediate stations are situated on elevated spots, at Forest Hill, Peckham Rye, Knockholt Beeches, Wrotham; Blue Bell Hill, Chatham; Isle of Sheppy, Whitstable, Herne Bay, Minster, Broad Stairs, and Deal. The establishment of such a line of communication will be of the greatest advantage to the mer-

cantile world, as a ship's arrival off the coast can be telegraphed to the owners in five minutes. An experiment was made a few days ago, on the line between Hull and Liverpool, when eighteen seconds only elapsed before a message was conveyed a distance of upwards of 70 miles.

In consequence of the summons issued against Sir Edward Knatchbull for refusing to pay a toll, the court at Canterbury became densely crowded. The particulars are these:—In September last, on the occasion of the right hon. baronet's acceptance of office, his seat was vacated, and the election consequent was fixed to take place on Monday the 20th of September. The right hon. baronet's residence is situated about twenty miles from the place. He left his residence on the previous Saturday, and the usual toll was demanded of him at the several turnpike gates through which he passed, at some of which he refused to pay. He claimed his exemption on the ground that he was going to an election. Mr. R. Furley, in defence, stated that Sir Edward Knatchbull had felt it necessary to leave his home on the Saturday, in order to avoid Sunday travelling, and to be in time for the nomination he paid a visit to Sir B. W. Bridges, intending to stay with him on the Sunday. Consequently, though the election was fixed for the Monday, still to all intents Sir Edward Knatchbull was on his road thereto on the Saturday, and as such was entitled to the exemption of toll. After consulting some time, the court gave as their decision, that there was sufficient evidence to convict the Right Hon. Sir Edward Knatchbull of the offence with which he was charged; and that they therefore did so, in the penalty of 2*l.* 2*s.*, with 8*s.* 6*d.* costs, the penalty being fixed at that sum to afford him the opportunity of appeal.

IRELAND.

The massive silver great seal of the Irish exchequer has been missed since Saturday. The loss was discovered on that day, when it became necessary to seal a commission, and in opening the box supposed to contain it the box was empty.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

It is rumoured that the government seriously contemplate the dismissal of the entire body of stipendiary magistrates.

Lord de Grey is about to visit Florence Court, the seat of his relative Lord Enniskillen.

The old corporation of Limerick has peremptorily refused to part with a farthing's worth of the public property. On Thursday Mr. Pigott applied to the Queen's Bench for a *quo warranto* against the late mayor.

The following commands and appointments in Ireland will immediately become vacant by the promotion of the undermentioned officers to the rank of lieutenant-general and major-general respectively:—The command of the southern, south-western, western, and northern districts, by the promotion to the rank of lieutenant-general of major-generals L'Estrange, Sir William Maclean, Sir Parker Caroll, and Sir Thomas Pearson; the command of the royal artillery, by the promotion of Colonel Webber Smith; the deputy adjutant-generalship and the deputy quartermaster-generalship by the promotion of colonels D'Aguilar and Sir G. Campbell.

General Sir Thomas Molyneux, of Castledillon, county of Armagh, expired last week at his residence in Dublin, after a very short illness. The gallant officer's promotion to the rank of general in the army, appeared in the supplement to the *Gazette*, and which reached town only a few hours before his demise. He is succeeded in his estates by his son, now Sir George Molyneux.

SCOTLAND.

On Tuesday week a public dinner, attended by upwards of 400 gentlemen, was given at Glasgow, in honour of James Lumsden, Esq., and William Cross, Esq., the lately elected liberal representatives of the city council. Mr. Wallace, the hon. member for Greenock, delivered an excellent speech, remarking that he was now going into his tenth parliament, and he had voted uniformly for a total abolition of the corn laws. But while they were, no doubt, the master-grievance, the import duties were also as baneful, and he concluded by expressing his determination to promote their complete revision.

The Barrowfield cotton-works, near Glasgow, belonging to Messrs. John Bartholomew and Co., were almost destroyed by fire on Tuesday week. A portion of the structure, separated by a division wall, was saved; but the whole of the works will be at a stand, as the part destroyed included a compartment in which preparing-processes were carried on. Five hundred people will therefore be thrown out of work; a serious calamity to the town, following so shortly after the destruction of the Lanefield cotton-mills. The value of the property destroyed is estimated at £40,000. There is no clue to the origin of the fire.

We understand that the agent of Butters has intimated to the town council his intention to raise an action of damages for the false imprisonment of his client. The chief point relied on is understood to be, that he was imprisoned not merely for the fine of 8*s.* but likewise for £2 13*s.* of expenses; and this last item no one pretending to the smallest quantum of legal knowledge attempts to defend.—*Scottish Pilot.*

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, December 1st, 1841.

Her Majesty and the infant Prince continue to enjoy perfect health. The Queen took an airing on Monday afternoon.

Private accounts received in town this morning from Sudbury state that her Majesty the Queen Dowager continues to improve in health. Her Majesty is so much better as to be able to walk about her chamber.

The *Gazette* of last night contains orders for the Court's going into mourning on Thursday next, the 2nd of December, for her late Majesty the Dowager Queen of Bavaria.

ARCHES COURT, THIS DAY.—*Bradlock and Newman v. Piggott.*—Affidavits in this case were put in, and the learned judge fixed Saturday next for the further hearing. He also announced his intention of delivering judgment in the Dover Church Rate Case on the 11th inst.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

The supply is very small, except in Irish Oats, of which upwards of 12,000 quarters have arrived. No alteration in price, but the trade appears rather firmer.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"James Hill." We have looked over his letter, and can discover no sufficient reason for giving it publication.

The article on "copyright" is in type, and shall be inserted at our earliest convenience.

"F. Trestrail" next week, if possible.

Our Oxford correspondent has our thanks. His suggestions shall be attended to.

"N. C., Tisbury Mills," "S. S." "A Gloucestershire Non. Con." "Thomas Jenkins," "James Humphrys," received. We are obliged to the writers. We may avail ourselves of the hints conveyed in their several communications; but we are precluded by other matter from giving them insertion in our columns.

"An Israelite" declined.

"Holmes Chapel Cheshire." Knapp's Christian Theology.

The article on "bible circulation" next week; and preliminary to it, we may request our readers attention to the list of prices of bibles and testaments published by the Scottish board in our advertising columns this week.

We are unable to reply to the questions of "A Dissenter," and "A Subscriber at Yeovil."

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 8 lines 5s. 0d.	For 16 lines... 7 0	For 24 lines... 9 0
10..... 5 6	18..... 7 6	26..... 9 6
12..... 6 0	20..... 8 0	28..... 10 0
14..... 6 6	22..... 8 6	Every additional 2 lines, 6d.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1841.

WHO WILL CATCH THE HARE?

THE *Morning Advertiser* of Thursday last, animadverted with somewhat more freedom than force upon the counsel we have presumed to tender to the Anti-corn-law League, touching the question of the suffrage. We hold ourselves obliged to that journal, for which we entertain sincere respect, for giving us an opportunity of explaining whatever in our course may possibly be misunderstood. Both the wisdom and the honesty of the movement we have recommended are called in question. Now, we have usually some reasons—silly ones, they may be—for preferring one line of political action to another, and when we are suddenly pulled up and told that we are playing "the tory game," we are not wont to heed the accusation, further than to produce our reasons for what we do, and pass on.

The gravamen of the charge against us, will be found in the following extract from the article in question:—

"Our contemporary is sadly deficient in his usual shrewdness in recommending the course on which we are animadverting. It would be the most effectual way which human ingenuity could devise, to play the tory game. Were the League to listen to the counsels of the *Nonconformist*, and to relinquish their anti-corn-law agitation for an agitation in favour of universal suffrage, the tory journals would halloo them on with all their might—laughing, however, all the while at their sheer folly and supreme simplicity."

"And abundant would be the reason which in such a case the tories and bread monopolists would have to laugh at the League; for it would certainly afford one of the richest illustrations which modern times could furnish, of the people relinquishing the pursuit of an attainable for an unattainable object. If it would not prove an exact verification of the story of the dog in the fable letting go the substance while snatching at the shadow, inasmuch as the corn-law repeal has not yet been wrenched from the monopolists, it would certainly be a case resembling that of a greyhound relinquishing the pursuit of the hare just when on the eve of catching the animal, and starting off after another hare at a considerable distance from the spot. It is now clear to all—even the tory journals themselves reluctantly admit as much—that something must be done with the view of neutralising the pressure of the corn monopoly. We may not, it is true, be able in the first instance to extort from Sir Robert Peel such a measure as the justice of the case and the exigencies of the country demand; we may not be able to wring from him either an entire repeal or a fixed duty of 8s.; but it must be indeed a miserable measure if it do not place us in a better position than we now are to hasten that crisis, which will inevitably and summarily seal the doom of the bread monopoly. The effect of all concessions is to enable those on whose behalf the concessions are made, to prosecute their plans with increased energy and power for obtaining their entire rights."

The *Morning Advertiser* will bear with us, we trust, if, with suitable deference to its superior wisdom, we quietly and dispassionately occupy ourselves for a few moments in showing why his observations make no impression upon us. Possibly it may put him into a better position to rescue us from the ridicule of tory journals at the "sheer folly and supreme simplicity" of our advice to the League. From such disgrace he may snatch us, by exposing the unsoundness of the arguments which have satisfied our understanding, and which, consequently, have prevailed upon our will.

We think, then, that peddling measures of commercial reform will, in the long run, prove more ruinous than no measures at all. The trifling relief they would afford would necessarily be purchased by an aggravation of the radical disease. The competition of foreign manufacturers is shutting us out of our most profitable markets. In the course of ten years, unless an entire change of system interpose to save us, much of our capital and machinery will be transported to countries less crushed beneath aristocratic exactions; and skill, in which we were once pre-eminent, will no longer distinguish our artisans from those of other European states. Manufacturing industry and prosperity will transfer their seat, and other nations will become workshops for the world. To us there appears but one remedy for this evil—but one method of averting from us a blow which would in an instant sink us down to a third or fourth-class power—namely, the adoption in all their integrity of free-trade principles. A little tampering with the corn laws, or a fixed duty, will not enable us to stand up against foreign competition. Either of them will satisfy some classes, and do something to soothe the chafing of the present agitation—but they would do nothing to alter our relative position in the markets of the world. More gra-

dually, perhaps, but not less certainly, would our manufacturing interests crumble away; and a modification of the present corn law system would hand us to ruin, to the full as inevitable as that which now impends over us. Such measures of commercial reform as we may fairly expect from Sir Robert Peel may, we deny not, alleviate the condition of master manufacturers. They will, possibly, afford time for our capitalists to turn themselves round, and disengage themselves from present pursuits without overwhelming loss. But the country would gain nothing—the working men would gain nothing—by the paltry instalments which the *Advertiser* would seem to value; and were confirmation of our assertion wanted, we may cite the authority of the Anti-corn-law League itself.

But the entire repeal of the corn laws by the present parliament is just as hopeless as the adoption of complete suffrage. It may be all very well for the *Morning Advertiser* to represent the League as "on the eve of catching the animal," but we can tell the *Advertiser* that the noble "greyhound" has not even got *within sight* of the "hare." Why are the people to be deluded? If *bonâ fide* free-trade principles constitute the object of pursuit, why not speak out the truth, and say there is not the remotest chance of overtaking it—no! not even were the whigs again returned to power. Does not Mr. Gregg, chairman of the meeting of deputies, know that? and Mark Phillips and Colonel Thompson? We have good reason to believe they do. Aye! more, we fear they would concur in the expediency of going for far less, so convinced do they appear to be of the hopelessness of entire repeal. A majority of 140 members of the House of Commons are ready to support the government in resisting all change. Of the minority, three parts are whigs anxious to go no further than the eight shilling fixed duty. The pretension, therefore, is both false and foolish, that the League is on the eve of accomplishing its great designs. It is without a semblance of prospect of it. Had the *Advertiser* condescended to read our leading political articles of a fortnight and three weeks back it would have found it much easier work to characterise our advice as "sheer folly and supreme simplicity," than to reply to the queries which we then ventured to put to the League.

These points having been settled in our judgment—first, that anything short of an entire repeal of the corn laws must eventually land us in national decay—and, secondly, that the present parliament will not give the country any measure even approximating to repeal, we are driven back in search of what we want to our present constituency, and are compelled to defer our expectations until another general election. But the last election proved our present constituencies to be so exposed to intimidation and bribery, and consequently so completely in the power of the landlords, as to render it certain that nothing but a national enthusiasm, such as that which carried the reform bill, will avail to return a majority of free trade members. Can the League reckon upon securing this? Can the middle classes hope to unite the labouring classes with themselves for the repeal of the corn laws, so indissolubly, so thoroughly, that the whole political atmosphere will become redolent of free trade maxims, and the very blood of the nation's heart be coloured with free trade principles? Will the wave of popular feeling, raised by anti-corn-law agitation, overtop and demolish, at the next electoral high-tide, aristocratic barriers? We think not. We may be wrong, but we are strongly of opinion that it will not. The working men who have scented political equality will never leave it for more bread. The middle class already see more and more clearly that aristocracy, rather than aristocratic doings, must be dealt with in the next struggle. They sigh for an end of the present transition state—and the hope of finally emancipating themselves from the bondage under which they now groan, would go far to induce them to risk everything in the conflict.

The question comes to this. Which plan is likely to tell most rapidly and most powerfully upon the present constituency—that which confines itself to free trade, or that which embraces an extension of the suffrage to the widest practical limits? Either the one or the other will cost four or five years labour at the least. Which, then, within that time is most likely to succeed, and which, in the event of success, would prove most effectual? This is the way in which we have looked at the question, perfectly careless as to whether tories chuckle with glee or groan with dismay. We think the suffrage question, whilst it would certainly secure the efforts of the working men, would rapidly gain ground amongst the middle classes. It is based on equity—it is complete and final. Let but society regard it as safe, and it would speedily create enthusiasm in its favour. It carries within it the germs of all other reform—political, ecclesiastical, and commercial. The necessity for it becomes daily more important—the prejudices existing against it are rapidly disappearing. A sincere and wholesome agitation of this question would soon dispel the fears which most people possessed of property cherish respecting it. Once fairly launched, and we believe it would, at no great distance of time, become a popular, an all but universal, favourite.

The other ground of difference between the *Advertiser* and ourselves is thus stated.

"But our quarrel with our contemporary is not because of the extreme lengths to which he is prepared to go on the suffrage question; but because he recommends the League to meddle with the question at all. They have been chosen by their constituents for a specific purpose; that purpose being the extinction of the corn monopoly. Towards the accomplishment of that object considerable sums have been contributed. The members of the League would, therefore, subject themselves to the grave charge of deliberately breaking faith with their constituents and the country, were they now to abandon the enterprise in which they have embarked, or to engage in any other work. When they have accomplished the objects for which they have been organised, when they have achieved the destruction of the bread monopoly, then let them by all means, form themselves into another associa-

tion or league for wresting universal suffrage from the legislature; or let them even now, if they feel so disposed, advocate with the zeal of apostles the principle of universal suffrage in their individual capacities; but as members of the Anti-corn-law League, chosen for a specific purpose, they are bound by every consideration of morality and good faith to keep their eyes solely and closely fixed on that purpose, until they have either succeeded in its accomplishment, or feel constrained, from the hopelessness of triumph, to abandon the enterprise, and to break up the association altogether."

The great end sought by the League, is the repeal of the corn laws. We urged upon that body the propriety of taking up the question of the suffrage as the only means to the end, and we asked the League, as we now ask the *Advertiser*, to point out the methods by which, rejecting this question, that end is to be accomplished. Were the League to do as we counselled them, instead of "abandoning the enterprise in which they are embarked," they would only, in our estimation, substitute a surer apparatus of means than the one they are now engaged in working. The dishonesty of such a course does not strike us, supposing the League sincerely to intend the object they profess to seek. But when, as at their last meeting, all corn law business had been disposed of, and the gentlemen sent from various parts of the country to transact it, chose to resolve themselves into a distinct body, and empower one of their number to draw up a declaration upon the suffrage, to which they might afterwards append their names, we confess, we hailed the movement with delight, and should as soon have thought of accusing the deputies of sympathising with the bench of bishops, as of "deliberately breaking faith with their constituents and the country." Now with what these gentlemen did, after the session of the League had closed, we expressed ourselves highly gratified in our last number—and we can see no reason for the earnest animadversions of the *Advertiser* at this precise moment, unless the deputies meant nothing by their move, and wish to draw out of it. The League, as a league, was never committed to this question—but the gentlemen who attended as deputies were. They did all that their constituents sent them to do—and having finished that, they did a little business on their own account. We thank them for their courage, and we hope that no complaints will avail to induce their sacrifice of personal independence, to official etiquette.

OBJECTIONS TO COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.—REVOLUTIONARY DESIGNS OF THE LABOURING CLASSES.

THE objections which may be urged against the adoption of complete suffrage, however variously put, will be found to range themselves into three classes—those which call in question the competency of a constituency thus composed to exercise aright the power conferred upon it—those which assume its inability to resist the external influences of corruption which may be brought to bear upon it—and those which base themselves upon the expectation that long cherished designs, striking at the very peace of society, will through this medium find a practical development. With the two former we have already dealt—the latter we proceed to dispose of with what brevity we can.

The objection is this. The labouring classes are destitute of any stake in the country. They have nothing to lose in a general convulsion of society. Discontented with the station assigned to them by Providence, they want nothing but the power, to put forth their hands against every right which government secures to us. With the franchise in their hands, and, by consequence, legislation under their control, property would no longer be safe. Should we invest them with political power, we must prepare ourselves for a general scramble. The dignity of law would be violated—confidence in its protection would be speedily sapped—a carnival of the worst passions of our nature would be proclaimed—an indiscriminate crusade against all our institutions would be undertaken—a reign of terror would forthwith commence—and universal anarchy would terminate as it always has done, and always will do, in the establishment of a military despotism. Such, in substance, is the objection. It looks formidable enough. True or false, it has made a deep impression upon the minds of the middle classes; and, perhaps, nothing would reconcile them to the measure we advocate so soon as disabusing their minds of this notion.

It behoves us, then, to look at the objection fairly—not to allow our judgment to be warped either by our wishes or our fears—to take the case as it stands and deal with it as reasonable men—to hear evidence on both sides—to make all due allowances—to bear in mind what human nature is, and what are the motives which ordinarily tell upon it—to take a wide view of surrounding circumstances, and observe the relation they bear to the question at issue—and thereupon to give an honest and impartial verdict. All that we shall attempt to do, will be to throw out a few hints which may serve to guide our readers to a just conclusion.

1. We may properly bear in mind, at the outset, that a strong disposition to withhold well founded claims can easily find pretexts to give a colour to injustice. Nothing was more common, previously to negro emancipation, than to impute to slaves, as a class, the most malignant designs. There had not been wanting an insurrection or two to make out a plausible case against them. And yet, that grand act of national justice which set them free for ever, instead of quickening, killed whatever evil purposes cruelty had thrust upon their minds. The middle classes of this country were then taught a lesson, which it would have been well for them never to have forgotten—namely, that to base unrighteous policy upon the assumption that men are filled with mischief which nothing but oppression can restrain, is but to build up wickedness upon falsehood. We have no right to allow our fears to libel a numerous class of our fellow-men and then admit the libel as a bar to their unquestionable rights. The working men of this country may, or may not, entertain the designs imputed to them. But our suspi-

cions must not be taken as evidence against them. We are called upon to render up to them that which in equity we cannot withhold. We may be afraid that they will employ their rights in such sort as to inflict injury upon us. But has not this in all ages been the plea of despotism? Tyranny never yet deemed it safe to do justly and take the consequences. If we are justified in doing wrong to prevent wrong, who shall hereafter condemn the freaks of the veriest despot who ever cursed humanity with his sway?

Nor ought we to forget that encroachment upon the property of the poor by the rich is not less warmly to be deprecated, than encroachment upon the property of the rich by the poor. Whilst we attribute to the working men evil designs, they can charge us on evidence not to be pushed aside, with evil doings. Our parliament robs them. Their parliament might or might not rob us. We by our representatives seize upon their scanty earnings and hand over a moiety to the landlords. We are the last persons, therefore, who ought to urge against the labouring classes the entertainment of dishonest intents as a sufficient reason for not giving them the franchise—for we, as a class, have used the franchise which we keep in our own hands to maintain dishonesty in actual being and operation.

2. In a case like the present, involving as it does, not the character alone, but the future well-being of a large body of society, we are bound to exercise the nicest care as to the kind of evidence we admit, and to see to it that we do not press that evidence beyond legitimate limits. The ravings of noisy demagogues, and the menaces of this or the other organ of democratic principles, must be taken for what they are worth, and no more. Occasional ebullitions, such as these, of bad feeling and unjustifiable purpose, do not necessarily implicate the mass, any more than the furious harangues of a Bradshawe, or the inuendoes of the *Standard*, are to be interpreted as indicating the deliberate designs of the tory party. In the latter case, we know how to discriminate between the scum which floats upon the surface, and the settled element with which it is found in contact—and why not in the former? Every class has its zealots—and if the sentiments of the class are to be judged of from the outpourings of the vain and worthless who have pushed themselves into notoriety, small respect is that which either of them could look to enjoy. But set off against questionable oratory and inflammatory articles, the admirable patience of the poor under privations the most severe—their quiet sufferance of wrong—their general honesty—their respect for property, which starvation itself has not yet broken through—take into consideration the fact that any man may venture with his pockets lined with money into the haunts of the most destitute, without fear of robbery, and that the depredations which are committed may almost invariably be traced to rascals trained to plunder, not to working men goaded on by misery, and we say, that the ascription to the latter of deliberate designs upon what is not their own is falsified by their whole conduct. Anything like a wide spread tendency to insubordination, pillage, or bloodshed, the labouring class of this country have failed to exhibit. Had they been driven to lamentable excesses of this kind, they would have had much to plead in extenuation of their crime. But the reverse of this has been the case. Poverty, artificially created, has existed in close contact with extravagant and enormous wealth—wealth coined from the blood and sweat of millions—and yet property is safe. Tell us not of police and soldiery—we say, that were the masses imbued with the dispositions imputed to them, neither military nor civil force could have prevailed to restrain them. As a class, they are honest—they abhor theft—they detest spoliation. Would that their professed superiors were more like them in this respect.

3. Were the current of the evidence in the opposite direction, we have yet to make due allowance for the influence upon them of their position. A man chained and buffeted is very likely, under the irritation of present indignity, to entertain and to utter designs which are yet abhorrent to his nature. There are moments when the coolest of us may be constrained to fling abroad threats of what nothing but dire necessity could impel us to execute. When multitudes starve in the midst of abundance—when homes which might be attractive resound with the maddening cries of children for bread, and winter winds nip the frame, and incessant anxiety preys upon the spirits and drinks up all the kindness of a man's heart, we are not to be greatly surprised if he sometimes discusses topics which trench upon the security of property. Should he talk at such seasons of the propriety of a re-distribution of wealth, the language he employs is rather that of his anguish than of his tastes and sentiments. Let the light of hope in upon his soul, and all the black thoughts which crawled about his heart in the gloom of his misery will disappear and die. Despair unbinds the worst of human passions, and many a man has meditated extremities, whilst under its fell influence, which are quite foreign to his ordinary habits. Were the case against the labouring classes tenfold stronger than it is, justice would yet prove to be the best and wisest policy. No man of reason will value the evidence which a man may be compelled to furnish against himself by the torture of the rack. Surely we do wrong to drive men to desperation by oppressive legislation, and then plead their discontent, and possibly insubordinate designs, as a sufficient argument to keep them where they are. If we close and bar every door of escape from starvation to the working men, we have no right to be indignant that they talk of breaking through the wall. Nor does it avail us to plead that we consent not to the oppression which crushes them to destruction. Constitutionally and morally we are consenting parties—constitutionally, inasmuch as the parliament we have chosen refuses them relief—morally, inasmuch as by giving them the suffrage we should give them the

remedy. Their blood is upon us,—and it seems we would rather incur that tremendous responsibility, than risk the realisation of our suspicions by giving them their rights.

4. We may further take into account, with a view to tranquillise our nervous apprehensions, the temperament and habits of the working people. They are the very reverse of mercurial—not susceptible of easy excitement. So far from being at the beck of every demagogue who hopes to secure a selfish end by playing upon the passions of the multitude, they are remarkable for nothing so much as imperturbability. At this moment, harassed on all sides as they are by galling legislation, to a lamentable extent unemployed, and shut out even from the prospect of a remedy, they exhibit a quiet forbearance which elicits admiration even from their oppressors. But give them full employment, and sufficient wages—and free trade, one of the first results to be anticipated from complete suffrage, would speedily secure for them both—and political agitation would have few charms for the mass of our labouring population. Home and daily bread would claim and have their chief energies. Raised to the level of freemen, they would evince no forwardness to enter upon a long course of agitation for objects known to be unjust. Far more probable is it, that after the first exercise of their newly acquired power, they would sink for a period into a state of listlessness in reference to public affairs. Men cannot be always riding upon the troubled sea of political strife. Englishmen, especially, delight in quiet—and might their industry but have fair play, and their self-respect be relieved from the perpetual blister of conscious political degradation, all their relationships, comforts, and hopes, would combine to weave about them a web of just conservatism, infinitely stronger than prison walls, or military steel.

5. Experience proves that in cases in which revolutionary designs are entertained, the surest way to baffle them is to do justice—

"Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just."

Within a few years past, the grand experiment has been made in the West Indies and in Ireland. In the first, emancipation—in the last, impartial administration of government, produced a state of tranquillity and order which no severity could compass. Why not in this country, also? Man is man, wherever we find him; and the readiest way to man's heart is through the habitual exercise of kindness. If evil designs are meditated by the labouring class, they must be frustrated, not by severity, but by generosity. They are too numerous a body to be despised with impunity. They are now become too intelligent a body to be long controlled by force or fraud. The suffrage they will have—the only question which remains is a question of time. Which then is the wiser course? To withhold their rights until compelled to give them up, or of our own free-will and sense of justice to proffer immediately our assistance and co-operation. If we do the first, we allow time and afford occasion for revolutionary designs to lay fast hold of the hearts of our working men—if the last, they will gladly join us in hunting out of society every unjust principle and every mischievous interest. The way to "slay enmity" is to show love. "*Fiat justitia, ruat cælum.*"

Here, then, we close. Not that we think of dropping the subject—for there are numerous incidental aspects under which it may be viewed. But as a consecutive and argumentative discussion of the question, our work is completed. It has been a pleasant one to us. That it may conduce to an early adjustment of the difference existing between the middle and the working classes, and to the extinction of political degradation in these realms, as it is our most earnest desire, so it would be our richest reward.

EMIGRATION.

THE discussions which some few days since occupied the columns of the leading political organs of the metropolis, lead us to infer that some general scheme of emigration is under the consideration of her Majesty's government. The subject merits serious attention—nor will our devotion of a brief space to this matter, be deemed irrelevant or ill-timed.

The rapid increase of our population, the excessive competition in every branch of industry occasioned by it, the consequent decrease of wages, and the pressure upon the means of subsistence, create a necessity for some great and important change in our national policy. The difficulty is one which must be dealt with, for social order will be ere long endangered, unless, by some expedient, the difficulty be removed. In the earlier ages of the world, pastoral and agricultural pursuits offering the only source of wealth, over-population could only be remedied by sending off superfluous hands to seek in other countries the subsistence which they were unable to find in their own. But the rise and progress of manufactures has provided other means of meeting the emergency, and density of population in modern times, under a wise and just system of policy, is not necessarily identified with national distress. Some localities are more favourable than others for carrying on the various processes of manufacture—some are evidently intended by nature for agricultural purposes. The inhabitants of each have only to exchange with each other the fruits of their industry, thus calling into play another means of wealth—commerce, o enjoy for centuries to come progressive prosperity.

Expatriation is an evil to which no legislation ought to conduce. Roving habits, a spirit of enterprise, or prospects of wealth, will furnish a sufficient number of emigrants to colonise the world in due time. Nor should we deem that government unwise, which lent its aid in producing this result. But we object to an offer of expatriation as a substitute for justice at home. We cannot see the propriety of first reducing men to the verge of starvation, and then helping them to transport themselves. Where the alternative is transportation or death, undoubtedly preference is to be given to the

former. But who makes the alternative necessary, and with what view is it now proposed? Can any mind fail to perceive that this emigration scheme is resorted to for the purpose of perpetuating flagrant injustice? Is not the whole thing a mere British type of the American Colonisation Society? Is it not plainly an attempt on the part of landowners so far to relieve, at the public expense, the pressure caused by their own selfishness and rapacity, as to render the present restrictions upon food and commerce tolerable for many years to come? Such is evidently their intention, should the rumour turn out substantially true—and the effect they desire, this novel order of means is well fitted to produce. Our indignation, therefore, rather than our surprise, is excited at witnessing the mode in which the matter has been treated by journals aspiring to the reputation of liberalism. They must know that no one thing would aid the present cabinet to resist any essential modification of the present corn laws so effectually as an extensive scheme of emigration under the auspices of government. Their ready concurrence in the matter leads us to infer that both sections of the aristocracy will cordially unite in any measure which may tend to perpetuate the present system of artificial scarcity and high rents.

To the poor the scheme carries cruelty and insult upon the very face of it. Have working men no ties of kindred, no social affections, no territorial attachments, that they are to be driven forth in thousands from the land of their fathers? Driven, we say, and we use the word advisedly. The necessity for their exile is created by monopoly. Man, not God, decrees their present miseries. There is room enough for them at home. Their want of employment results from the extravagance and tyranny of landlords. Give but their industry a free stage and no favour, and they would earn a comfortable subsistence here. Their expulsion from their native soil will add but another to the long list of sacrifices which an oppressed people are compelled to render to aristocratic cupidity.

The manufacturer will find no sensible advantage accruing to him from the adoption of this expedient. Our population increases at the rate of a thousand a day, and the most extensive system of emigration could scarcely contemplate the shipping off to foreign shores a larger number than this. The families who would avail themselves of the opportunity afforded them, would usually be the most sober and industrious of our working population. In point of numbers we should remain stationary—in point of character we should probably retrograde. Thousands of our artisans would carry their skill to other points, and without gaining even temporary relief of any consequence, the manufacturers would be sowing the seeds of rival establishments in every quarter of the globe. Emigration, instead of aiding them, would be found eventually to render more certain the decay and ruin which they are seeking to avoid.

But thus it ever has been with conservatism. When selfish interests are to be promoted, the Tories know how to carry out a principle entire. No half-and-half measures find favour with them then. And to a principle embodied in legislation for such purposes, they resolutely adhere under every change of circumstances. Nothing can prevail upon them to abandon it. Rather than this, they will adopt every conceivable expedient for making it work more easily. They passed the corn laws under the protection of the bayonet. They have reaped a golden harvest from what they dared to sow—and now that their policy has driven the country to the brink of ruin, and the increase of population has forced upon every mind the necessity of change, they aim, not to multiply the means of subsistence, but to diminish the number of mouths which consume it. They resolve upon a continuance of those measures which produce general inflammation, and when the life of the patient is seriously threatened, resort to bleeding and warm water. And our liberal journals watch the preparations for this surgical operation, and cry it up as a kind and merciful resolve. The device, however, is hit upon too late. What if the sufferer refuses to be bled, and, instead of depletion, demands a more generous diet? This, from all we can judge, he is very likely to do—and should his demand be resisted, he may haply turn his physician out of doors, with somewhat more energy of manner than is convenient. At all events the alternative, it seems, is to be proposed to him—death by the corn laws, or transportation for life.

SUMMARY.

THE dearth of political intelligence this week renders a summary well nigh impossible. We have positively nothing to record, save a brevet promotion of officers in the army and navy, consequent upon the birth of the Prince of Wales. This measure, entailing as it necessarily must, considerable additional expense upon the country, will throw a cloud over the nation's dawning joy. At a moment of commercial embarrassment and manufacturing depression altogether unprecedented in the annals of this empire, it savours but little of political wisdom to add to the national burdens by wholesale military and naval promotions. Thousands of pounds may be squandered in this way, under the sanction of his grace the Duke of Wellington—when the operatives at Paisley, through the deputation who represented them, not only solicited in vain an interview with the Duke, in order to place before him accurate information of their distress, but were tacitly refused a single farthing of his Grace's money towards their relief. The veteran warrior, who occupies a seat in the cabinet, but is not in the political service of her Majesty—who is a minister of state without a minister of state's responsibility, is forward enough to give away the people's money, not altogether reluctant to receive it, and certainly in no hurry to part with his own. Such things as these do not pass without making a due impression upon humane and thinking minds—and many addresses to her Majesty of congratulation upon her recent happiness may be expected to contain a clause similar to that appended

to the address of the inhabitants of Southwark, carried by a large majority last Wednesday evening, and sanctioned by some of the most respectable gentlemen of the borough.

"At the same time, we cannot but acquaint your Majesty that thousands of virtuous and modest women, your Majesty's subjects, are passing the like natural extremities upon beds of straw, without even a pillow whereon to lay their heads—that starvation and misery are pervading the whole length and breadth of the land, and we attribute this state of things to class legislation, and therefore pray your Majesty to instruct your ministers to pass a law that every male twenty-one years of age, untainted with crime, may have a vote in the election of representatives in the Commons House of Parliament."

At Plymouth, Lord John Russell, in answer to the deputation appointed to present an address agreed upon by a public meeting of the inhabitants, says, that the whigs "have left their successors an easy task," and that they have "made the empire so strong that none but the grossest incapacity can endanger its fortunes or impair its reputation." This is blowing the trumpet of self-adulation with a vengeance. And yet easy as it is to govern the kingdom at this moment, we doubt whether the whigs would be endured for a single month. The distress which has long afflicted England is now finding its way into Wales. An intelligent correspondent writes to us, that "one fourth of the working men in the iron manufacturing districts of Glamorgan and Monmouth, amounting to some thousands are to be discharged on the first of December," and from the coal districts of the principality "complaints of great want of employment and consequently of severe suffering are constantly arriving." There as well as here trade and business of every kind is at a stand still—and honest men (our correspondent gives a striking instance) begin to ask, which is the greater sin—to suffer their wives and children to starve to death, to kill them at once to prevent their further suffering, or to steal food to save their lives? Such a state of society cannot long endure.

Foreign news is pacific in tone. Spain is settling down under the regency of Espartero—and France has assumed a more friendly attitude towards her peninsular neighbour. From the West, assurances are amicable. In the East—Greece and Syria, symptoms of internal disquiet show themselves.

We have reason to believe that her Majesty has expressed a disinclination to perform any act in consequence of which the new-born heir to the throne would be addressed by a title similar to that by which his illustrious father is designated and addressed. It is also said that both to the Premier and the Lord Chancellor this feeling on the part of her Majesty has been made the subject of a formal communication, for the purpose of ascertaining how far, with due regard to established precedent, it can be acted upon in settling the style of the interesting subject of the inquiry. "The Infant Prince" is the appellation which is used throughout the household, when speaking of the royal infant; and this title is understood to be that for which her Majesty has expressed a decided preference.—*Globe*.

The Queen, we understand, has already sketched a likeness of the infant Prince, which will immediately be lithographed. The resemblance is said to be perfect, and the circumstances under which it was made cannot fail of giving to it an interest peculiarly its own.—*John Bull*.

Orders have been sent to Windsor to have the Castle in readiness by the 15th inst. The christening of the Prince of Wales is not expected to take place till after the meeting of parliament.

A report has, we are informed, gone forth, that directions have been given for the preparation of St. George's Hall, in Windsor Castle, for the purpose of the christening of the infant Prince. We have good reason to believe that this report is totally without foundation, and, moreover, that it is highly probable that the Queen will, at the proper period, signify the personal wish and intention of her Majesty that the sacrament of baptism shall, in the case of the Prince, be ministered in a church or chapel.—*Times*.

A patent, creating the infant Duke of Cornwall Prince of Wales, is prepared.

By her Majesty's permission, it is decided that Mr. G. Hayter shall commemorate the forthcoming solemnity of the christening of the infant Prince, by a grand historical picture, with portraits the size of life.

The Queen has appointed Prince Albert; Lord Lyndhurst; the Duke of Sutherland; the Marquis of Lansdowne; the Earl of Lincoln; the Earl of Shrewsbury; the Earl of Aberdeen; Lord John Russell; Lord Francis Egerton; Viscount Palmerston; Viscount Melbourne; Lord Ashburton; Lord Colborne; the Right Hon. Charles Shaw Lefevre; Sir Robert Peel; Sir James Graham; Sir Robert Inglis; H. G. Knight, Esq.; B. Hawes, jun., Esq.; H. Hallam, Esq.; S. Rogers, Esq.; G. Vivian, Esq.; and T. Wisc, Esq., her Majesty's commissioners for inquiring into the best mode of promoting the fine arts in the United Kingdom.

The supplement to the *London Gazette* of Tuesday, Nov. 23, containing the anticipated brevet, was looked for with the greatest anxiety by both branches of the service, and has fully realised the expectations anticipated with regard to its extent, and the next *Gazette* of promotions, which will take place at the earliest possible period, will contain a greater amount of names, as several of those who have been advanced a step will retire upon full pay, and be succeeded by others whose advancement will create various and new appointments.—*Courier*.

The promotions which have taken place are as follows:—To be generals—lieutenant-generals whose commissions are dated on or before May 27, 1825. To be lieutenant-generals—major-generals whose commissions are dated on or before July 22, 1830. To be major-generals—colonels whose commissions are dated from July 22, 1830, to May 20, 1836, inclusive. To be colonels—lieutenant-colonels of 1826, 1827, 1828. To be lieutenant-colonels—majors of 1826, 1827, 1828, 1829. To be majors—captains of 1826, 1827, 1828.

A brevet promotion of officers in the East India service has been gazetted.

The Duke of Wellington has declined all communication with the deputation from Paisley on behalf of the distressed operatives. The

correspondence between them has been published at length. The reasons the Duke assigns are rather singular, he says, "He pays every attention it is in his power to give to the distresses at Paisley as well as elsewhere. A meeting to discuss them is not necessary in order to draw his attention to these distresses, and his other occupations render it necessary that he should decline to receive the deputation. He begs the deputation to observe that he is not in the Queen's political service—that he does not fill any political office, and exercises no power or authority."

A model illustrative of an improved mode of stopping, and preventing collision in railroad travelling, has been submitted by Mr. Wroughton to Sir Frederick Smith, at the office of the Board of Trade.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

DREADFUL EXPLOSION.—FIFTEEN LIVES LOST.—At Barnsley, Yorkshire, on Monday week, an explosion of fire damp took place at Messrs. Day and Twibell's colliery, by which fifteen persons have lost their lives. The explosion originated in one of the men, though cautioned, going with a candle into an unsafe part for his tools. A boy named Walton was blown out of the corve, in which he was descending the shaft, and literally dashed to pieces. Two other boys descending in the corve, although actually blown out, dropped into it again as it went down, whilst their poor companion fell to the bottom and was killed. The vapour was observed to issue from the shaft mouth for full three minutes after the explosion. The concussion was heard and felt at an immense distance. It was like the report of a field of artillery, and shook down a wall near the pit. One person died through suffocation, in endeavouring to get the other sufferers from their perilous situation.

A TOWN DESTROYED BY FIRE.—The *Prussian State Gazette*, under date of St. Petersburg, the 6th inst., states, that the town of Orel had been destroyed by fire. Seven hundred houses fell a prey to the flames, and some most important documents deposited in the government archives were destroyed.

INCENDIARY FIRE IN BERKSHIRE.—About one o'clock in the morning of Monday last, a destructive fire broke out on the farm of Mr. Goddard, of Chilton, about three miles from Market Ilsey. Save the farm house, the whole of the property, or nearly so, was destroyed. There is no doubt but that it was the act of an incendiary. This, we are informed, is the third fire that has taken place on Mr. Goddard's farm within the last twelve months, all believed to have resulted from the same cause.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY BY FIRE IN MANCHESTER.—On Wednesday afternoon, the oil cloth manufactory of Messrs. Hampson and Knight, Pickford street, Alum street, Great Ancoats, was discovered to be on fire. The fire had originated in some oil cloths hung out of one of the windows igniting from the heat of a fire in the yard, into which some oil had been spilt from the boiler.—On Thursday morning, information was given of a fire at Messrs. Peter and Thomas Wood's timber yard, Oxford street, opposite the bottom of James's street. The fire originated in an open shed in which was a saw mill, and communicating with a building of two stories over it, used as a work shop for joiners. When the engines arrived, the flames had reached the second story, and in a few minutes afterwards a joist giving way in the ceiling, opened a communication for the flames to the upper story and roof. The roof and property in the upper story were destroyed, and the property in the shed. The fire is supposed to have originated from the over-heating of the saws, when in work by the friction, which had communicated with the saw dust.—A third fire broke out early on Friday morning, in the warehouse of Mr. E. Bancroft, straw bonnet manufacturer, which is situate on the north side of St. Ann's street, at the corner of Back square. The building, which is four stories high, with a frontage of about twenty yards to St. Ann's street, has recently been partially rebuilt, and the whole was destroyed.

THE GREAT SACRIFICE OF INFANT LIFE BY FIRE.—At an inquest held last week before Mr. Higgs, on the body of a child burnt to death, that functionary said that the present inquest made the fifth he had held within the last eleven days on children who had met their death in a similar manner. It was most painful to contemplate such a sacrifice of human life. The only remedy for it was, in his opinion, the "fire guard," which every person having children ought to possess. The cost of such an article was trifling.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday morning week, Henry Kirk, Esq., of Parr's House, near Stockport, but lately residing at the family house in the Eaves, in the parish of Chapel-en-le-Frith, left the latter place, taking with him his gun, and went in search of game; when, in passing through a hedge, the gun lock coming in contact with some branch or twig in the hedge, went off, and shot him dead on the spot. He was a fine looking man, in the bloom of life, standing more than six feet high, and proportionately stout. He has left a widow and two or three infant daughters to deplore the sad catastrophe.

FATAL SHIPWRECK OFF REDCAR.—The *Northern Times* gives an account of the shipwreck, on Sunday week, of the *Susannah*, of Stockton, with the loss of all her crew, consisting of nine persons. The unfortunate vessel being coal laden, and in a sinking state, struck in very deep water, with her crew hanging on her rigging; and, in this position, they were plainly seen from the shore. As the vessel neared, the life-boat was launched off into a tremendous surf, when she made her way in the most masterly style. Unfortunately, the tide was setting strong in, with the wind dead on shore, so that the boat was carried, in spite of every exertion, so much to the leeward, that she could never make up her lost way; and, though frequently nearing the vessel, was as often driven back; when, during their gallant but futile exertions to recover their position, the ship broke up, and all on board perished.

SECOND SLIP OF EARTH ON THE BRIGHTON RAILWAY.—Last week another portion of the embankment beyond New Cross fell in from the west side, covering the rails nearly thirty feet in depth. Several Directors of the Brighton Company and Mr. Statham, the engineer, visited the spot, and about one hundred excavators, with two engines and two trains of earth trucks immediately proceeded to remove the

stoppage. Several hundred yards of a high embankment have slipped completely over the tramway. Nearly the whole of the distance from the spot to No. 4, bridge, presents a succession of partial slips. The down line, it is said, will be cleared in a day or two, but the up line will require much more time.

SAGACITY OF A CAT.—It was only a few evenings ago that one of our worthy neighbours, who keeps a shop in Little Underbank, was much surprised at the conduct of his cat. He was standing in his shop, when pussy put a paw on his trousers, and endeavoured to pull him towards the cellar leading out of the shop. He took no notice at first, but this she repeated three times; and in order to see what could be the cause of her thus troubling him, he took her into his arms and carried her into the cellar, where he kept a large quantity of leather. Pussy immediately sprang from him, and jumping upon a piece of leather, began to look underneath it, as if in search of something. Her master then raised the leather, and he there found a boy of twelve or fourteen years of age concealed under it. On bringing the young rascal from his hiding-place, he naturally asked him what he was doing there? The reply was, that he had not money to pay for a lodging, and thought he might stay there till morning. The worthy shopkeeper made him remember that a feather-bed was preferable to a leather one, by inflicting summary punishment on the offender. Thus the sagacity of this cat most probably saved the premises from being robbed, and its master perhaps from being murdered.—*Stockport paper.*

HEDGEHOGS.—One of the most interesting facts in the natural history of the hedgehog is that announced in 1831 by M. Lenz, and which is now confirmed by Professor Buckland. That is, that the most violent animal poisons have no effect upon it—a fact which renders it of peculiar value in forests, where it appears to destroy a great number of noxious reptiles. M. Lenz says that he had in his house a female hedgehog, which he had kept in a large box, and which soon became very mild and familiar. He often put into the box some adders, which it attacked with avidity, seizing them indifferently by the head, the body, or the tail, and did not appear alarmed or embarrassed when they coiled themselves around its body. On one occasion M. Lenz witnessed a fight between the hedgehog and a viper. When the hedgehog came near and smelled the snake, for with those animals the sense of sight is very obtuse, she seized it by the head, and held it fast between her teeth, but without appearing to do it much harm; for, having disengaged its head, it assumed a furious and menacing attitude, and hissing vehemently, inflicted several severe bites on the hedgehog. The little animal, however, did not recoil from the bites of the viper, or indeed seem to care much about them. At last, when the reptile was fatigued by its efforts, she again seized it by the head, which she ground between her teeth, compressing the fangs and glands of poison, and then devouring every part of the body. M. Lenz says, that battles of this sort occurred in the presence of many persons; and sometimes the hedgehog has received eight or ten wounds on the ears, the snout, and even on the tongue, without appearing to experience any of the ordinary symptoms produced by the venom of the viper. Neither herself nor the young which she was suckling seemed to suffer from it. This observation agrees with that of Pallas, who assures us that the hedgehog can eat about 100 cantharides without experiencing any of the effects which this insect taken inwardly produces on men, dogs, and cats. A German physician, who made the hedgehog a peculiar object of study, gave it a strong dose of prussic acid, of arsenic, of opium, and of corrosive sublimate, none of which did it any harm. The hedgehog in its natural state only feeds on pears, apples, and other fruits, when it can get nothing he likes better. Its ordinary food consists of worms, slugs, snails, frogs, adders, and sometimes rats and mice.

COMPRESSED AIR.—M. Triger has communicated some curious effects of the compression of air, witnessed in an apparatus which he had invented for sinking shafts of coal pits in the Maine-et-Loire, where compressed air was used for keeping out the water filtering through beds of sand. The immediate effect produced on the workmen, on passing from the open air into that compressed to three atmospheres, was pain in the ears, more or less strong; but this soon ceased. A great acceleration of combustion was witnessed, tallow candles with metal wicks being obliged to be used instead of those with cotton, which were consumed much too quickly, and gave out an intolerable smoke. It was observed that, when the pressure was taken off the air, great cold was experienced, and the air itself became converted instantly into a thick fog or cloud. The workmen found that their voices were much more feeble in the compressed than in the open air, and that they could not whistle. It was also much easier for them to go up steps of ladders in the compressed than in the open air, their breathing being more free; and one of the men who had been deaf ever since the siege of Antwerp, was able to hear distinctly while in the compressed air.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENTS.—"Barnaby was to die. There was no hope. It is not the least evil attendant upon the frequent exhibition of this last dread punishment of death, that it hardens the minds of those who deal it out, and makes them, though they be amiable men in other respects, indifferent to, or unconscious of, their great responsibility. The word had gone forth that Barnaby was to die. It went forth every month, for lighter crimes. It was a thing so common, that very few were startled at the awful sentence, or cared to question its propriety. Just then, too, when the law had been so frequently outraged, its dignity must be asserted. The symbol of its dignity—stamped upon every page of the criminal statute-book—was the gallows; and Barnaby was to die." * * * * * "Although one of these men displayed in his speech and bearing, the most reckless hardihood; and the other in his every word and action testified such an extreme of abject cowardice, that it was humiliating to see him; it would be difficult to say which of them would most have repelled and shocked an observer. Hugh's was the dogged desperation of a savage at the stake; the hangman was reduced to a condition little better, if any, than that of a hound with a halter round his neck. Yet, as Mr. Dennis knew, and could have told them, these were the two commonest states of mind in persons brought to their pass. Such was the wholesome growth of the seed sown by the law, that this kind of harvest was usually looked for as a matter of course."—*Box.*

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—The person of the Emperor is that of a colossal man in the full prime of life and health, forty-two years of age, about six feet two inches high, and well filled-out, without any approach to corpulency; the head magnificently carried, a splendid breadth of shoulder and chest, great length and symmetry of limb, with finely formed hands and feet. His face is strictly Grecian, forehead and nose in one grand line; the eyes finely lined, large, open, and blue, with a calmness, a coldness, a freezing dignity, which can equally quell an insurrection, daunt an assassin, or paralyse a petitioner; the mouth regular, teeth fine, chin prominent, with dark moustache and small whisker; but not a sympathy on his face. His mouth sometimes smiled, his eyes never. There was that in his look which no monarch's subject could meet. His eye seeks every one's gaze, but none can confront his.—*Residence on the shores of the Baltic, by a Lady.*

MEN ARE NOT EQUAL AT BIRTH.—It is maintained by Helvetius and his set, that an infant of genius is quite the same as any other infant, only that certain surprisingly favourable influences accompany him through life, especially through childhood, and expand him, while others lie close folded, and continue dunces. Herein, say they, consists the whole difference between an inspired prophet and a double-barrelled game preserver: the inner man of the one has been fostered into generous development; that of the other, crushed down, perhaps, by vigour of animal digestion, and the like, has exuded and evaporated, or at best sleeps now irresuscitably stagnant at the bottom of his stomach. "With which opinion," cries Teufeldröckh, "I should as soon agree as with this other, that an acorn might, by favourable or unfavourable influences of soil and climate, be nursed into a cabbage, or the cabbage-seed into an oak."—*Sartor Resartus.*

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—The real name of the Emperor of China is seldom or ever known. Upon ascending the throne he assumes a name by which, when spoken of, he must be called; for, to pronounce or write his proper one, by accident or intention, is death to the divulger of the secret, to his family, and, if a rich man, the confiscation of his property ensues. A literary man, having accidentally used the word "Ming" (which happened to be the reigning monarch's name) in his work, suffered with his sons, the extreme penalty of the law; his wife and daughters, with other members of his family, were banished, and his estates confiscated.

IRISH SIMPLICITY.—A military officer living in barracks, ordered his Irish servant to boil him an egg for breakfast, adding an injunction to "boil it soft." The officer took up the newspaper and read it for ten minutes, then considered why his egg did not arrive, and rang the bell. "My egg?" "I'm seeing about it, Sir." Another five minutes elapsed. "Where's this egg?" "Not done, Sir." "Not done! do you mean to keep me waiting all day?" "Bring it directly, Sir." Still no egg came; the bell rang once more: "Where is the egg?" thundered the officer. "Yer honor," said Thomas in alarm, "didn't you tell me to bile it soft, Sir? and haven't I biled it this quarter of an hour, and it isn't soft yet?"—*George Cruikshank's Omnibus.*

APPLYING IN TIME.—A certain "enumerator" in the Denbigh district of the St. Asaph union, on being paid by the superintendent registrar for his past services, solicited the office for the next census in 1851.

CRITICISM.—A countryman was shown Gainsborough's celebrated picture of "The Pigs." "To be sure," said he, "they be deadly like pigs, but nobody ever saw three pigs feeding together but what one on'em had a foot in the trough."

At table where a wit was dining the other day, a pair of soles were served up pretty well smeared with soot. "What could cook be thinking about (murmured the hostess) when she dressed these soles?"—"I dare say," said her guest, "she thought the soles were the upper leather, and so she blacked them!"

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

WESLEYAN METHODIST ASSOCIATION.

The Penzance Branch of its Home and Foreign Missionary Society, held its annual services in Queen street Chapel, commencing on Sunday the 14th of November, when two impressive discourses were delivered in behalf of the society, that in the morning by the Rev. John Gibbons, Wesleyan Association minister, of Helston, and that in the evening by the Rev. Thomas Pennock, Wesleyan Association missionary, from the island of Jamaica.

On Monday evening the public meeting was held. Great public interest having been excited, in consequence of Mr. Pennock's intended visit on the occasion, the chapel was well filled at an earlier period than could have been expected from the unfavourable state of the weather.

The meeting commenced with singing, and prayer was offered by the Rev. James Edgar, minister of the association at Helston.

T. P. ROSEVEAR, Esq., of Barn Park House, Boscastle, was called to the chair; who, after an introductory speech, stating the objects of the meeting, and the importance of active personal effort—man's responsibility to the Redeemer of the human family—and His, the Saviour's, requirements on the mind, body, and estate of every enlightened individual, in furtherance of His great object, that of the establishment of a spiritual kingdom throughout the world, requested the secretary, Mr. W. H. Rodd, to read the report. After which, resolutions were moved and seconded by the Rev. John Gibbons, of the association, Helston, and the Rev. T. C. Finch, of the Baptist church, Penzance, and by the Rev. T. Pennock, and others.

The resolution moved by Mr. PENNOCK, was introduced by a unique and uncommonly interesting speech, developing in an able manner the extraordinary nature and character of the rise, progress, and prospects of the Wesleyan Methodist Association in the island of Jamaica. The rev. gentleman, it appeared, had laboured in the West India Islands upwards of twenty years as a missionary; and in the course of his speech stated, in a clear and succinct manner, his reasons for leaving the Wesleyan Conference body, and the consequent formation of the Jamaica Branch of the Wesleyan Association, with its present cheering position, after all the decided and ungracious opposition

manifested by the agents of the connexion from which he had seceded—noticing at length the encouragements he had met with from the Kingston municipal, and other authorities of the island, together with the timely and christian-like kindness and sympathy of the baptist brethren, namely, Messrs. Knibb and other excellent ministers of that church, some of whom have since gone to their heavenly rest. Mr. Pennock, in the course of his speech, gave an interesting account of the remarkable and unexpected assistance he had met with from the sympathetic kindness and pecuniary aid afforded by a number of Hebrew merchants in Kingston, in the season of extreme difficulty, in fitting up the first association chapel in that city, who in three weeks contributed, together with other respectable natives, to the amount of several hundred pounds for that purpose; and that many individuals of that nation, not unfrequently attend the ministry of the association at Kingston, one of whom, a talented youth, was converted under the first sermon he (Mr. P.) preached in that chapel, and is now become an able and highly acceptable minister of the christian faith in the Wesleyan Association, in the island of Jamaica, declaring often to both Jews and Gentiles, that Jesus is indeed the Christ, the sent of God. Mr. Pennock also presented a very interesting account of the success of the association in its commencing attempts to raise up a native ministry and self-supporting churches, unaided by funds from the mother country; the commencement, indeed, of a new and important era in the work of missions; seven or eight native men, as talented ministers, now being employed by the association as missionaries in Jamaica. Mr. P. not only afforded an ample detail of the rise, progress, and present position of the association mission in Jamaica, but also some exceedingly interesting statements in regard to the personal and religious acquirements, and mental expansion of the sons of Africa, as more especially visible since the passing of the emancipation act, thereby exhibiting, to every unprejudiced individual, that mind is not confined to "colour" or clime.

The address, which was continuously interesting for nearly two hours, was admirable both in detail and incident, and closed with an earnest appeal in behalf of the association society's missions. The resolution being seconded, the succeeding resolutions were moved and seconded by Messrs. Edgar and Weston, association ministers, in concise and animated speeches.

Thanks were also tendered to Mr. Pennock for his very interesting and efficient aid, which were signified in a very impressive manner by the large congregation assembled standing. Thanks were also voted to the collectors for their efficient and gratuitous services; to the chairman, and the Rev. Mr. Finch, baptist minister, for their continued kindness in attending the annual meeting. The doxology was then sung, and a dismissive prayer having been offered by the Rev. James Edgar, the large assembly, which had again and again throughout the meeting evinced its unqualified approbation of the proceedings, retired highly gratified with the mental treat which had been afforded. The collections at this anniversary exceeded those of any former year.

Other meetings of a similar and interesting character have been held, we understand, at Boscastle, Camelford, Wadebridge, Bodmin, Lostwithiel, St. Austell, Redruth, Helston, Mullion, Liskeard, Polperro, and Devonport.

The dissenting chapel at Falbourn, Cambridgeshire, was re-opened after enlargement, on Thursday, Nov. 11th. In the morning the Rev. S. Thodey, of Cambridge, read the scriptures and offered prayer; the Rev. Alexander Fletcher, M.A., of London, preached from Psalm xlviii. 12, 13; and the Rev. — Flower, of Burwell, concluded the service by prayer. In the evening, the scriptures were read, and prayer offered, by the Rev. W. W. Cantlow, of Shelford; the Rev. R. Roff, of Cambridge, preached from Rev. xiv. 4, 5; and the Rev. — Garner, of Harston, concluded the services of the day by prayer.

On Wednesday evening, Nov. 17, the Rev. W. Elliott, late of Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, was publicly recognised as pastor of the particular baptist church, meeting in Beulah chapel, Somers' Town. The Rev. W. Poile, of Kepple-street, commenced the service with reading the scriptures and prayer; the Rev. R. W. Overbury, of Eagle-street, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. G. Pritchard, late of Kepple-street, asked the usual questions, and implored the divine blessing on the newly formed union; the Rev. F. A. Cox, D.D., LL.D., of Hackney, gave the charge to the pastor, from Col. i. 28; the Rev. S. Green, of Walworth, preached to the church from Psalm cii. 13; and the Rev. W. B. Bowes, of Blandford-street, closed the service with prayer.

The following statistics are extracted from a prize essay, by the Rev. J. Peggs, on the extension of the general baptist connexion:—Leicestershire, 22 chapels; Lincolnshire, 16; Nottinghamshire, 12; Yorkshire, 11; Derbyshire, 11; Cambridgeshire, 6; Warwickshire, 6; Norfolk, 5; Lancashire, 4; Cheshire, 4; Buckinghamshire, 4; Northumberland, 0; Cumberland, 0; Westmorland, 0; Durham, 0; Shropshire, 0; Herefordshire, 0; Monmouthshire, 0; Gloucestershire, 0; Oxfordshire, 0; Staffordshire, 3; Middlesex, 3; Worcestershire, 2; Northamptonshire, 2; Kent, 2; Wiltshire, 2; Huntingdonshire, 1; Surrey, 1; Hampshire, 1; Hertfordshire, 1; Rutland, 1; Bedfordshire, 0; Suffolk, 0; Essex, 0; Sussex, 0; Berkshire, 0; Somersetshire, 0; Dorsetshire, 0; Devonshire, 0; Cornwall, 0. Total number of chapels, 120.

The Rev. John Thorpe has resigned the pastorate of the church and congregation assembling in Mount Zion Chapel, Sheffield, on account of ill-health. The rev. gentleman has, we understand, for some time been labouring under a disease of the chest; and his physicians have advised a cessation from ministerial labour as the only means of preserving his valuable life to his family and friends.

Mr. Charles Bingley, of Airedale College, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the independent church and congregation at Middlesborough, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, and will enter upon his labours there on the third Sabbath in January.

The independent chapel at Bamford, which has been rebuilt and enlarged, was opened for divine worship on Wednesday, the 24th ult., when sermons were preached—in the morning, by the Rev. T. Raffles, LL.D. of Liverpool; in the afternoon, by the Rev. R. Halley, D.D. of Manchester; and in the evening, by the Rev. John Ely, of Leeds. Bamford is situate about two miles from Rochdale.

A new and elegant chapel was opened for the worship of God at Manchester on Friday, the 19th of November. The Rev. Richard Fletcher commenced the morning service by reading the scriptures and prayer; the Rev. Edward Steane, of Camberwell, preached; and the Rev. W. F. Burchell, of Rochdale, concluded the service. In the evening the Rev. J. W. Massie read the scriptures and prayed; the Rev. James Parsons, of York, preached; and the Rev. William M'Kerrow closed the service by prayer. Dinner and tea were provided in the spacious school-room adjoining, when about 100 ministers and friends, of various denominations, were present. The chairman, Mr. Alderman Collinson, stated that the entire expense of erecting the chapel, vestries, school-room, &c. &c., amounted to about 3,650*l.*, of which two-thirds had been subscribed. On the following Sabbath the Rev. E. Steane preached in the morning, the Rev. James Griffin in the afternoon, and the Rev. Robert Halley, D.D., in the evening. The contributions at the close of the various services amounted to 700*l.* The chapel is situated opposite Ducie street, in the Oxford road, surrounded by a large and increasing population. The church will be formed on the principle of admitting to fellowship "all who are partakers of like precious faith," without regard to denominational distinctions.

MARRIAGES.

At the independent chapel, Felsted, by the Rev. J. J. Mark, Mr. GEORGE EMBERSON, of Newton street, Holborn, to Miss MARTHA FISH, second daughter of the Rev. T. Fish, late of Little Waltham.

Nov. 5, at the independent chapel, Bala, Merionethshire, by the Rev. Michael Jones, Llanuwchllyn, the Rev. HUMPHREY ELLIS, independent minister, Llangwim, to Miss ELIZABETH JONES, Coedybedno, near Bala.

Nov. 22, at Marylebone church, JOHN, eldest son of JOHN THORNTON, Esq., of Clapham, Surrey, to HARRIET SARAH, youngest daughter of the late Right Rev. REGINALD HEBER, bishop of Calcutta.

Nov. 23, at Trinity church, Marylebone, HENRY WILLIAM, third son of the late ZACHARY MACAULAY, Esq., to MARGARET, fourth daughter of Lord and Lady DENMAN.

DEATHS.

Nov. 13, at Yeovil, in the prime of life, the Rev. Mr. CHAPMAN, minister of the baptist chapel in that town.

Lately, the Earl of HAREWOOD, while on his way home after hunting, aged 74. His lordship was lord lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Nov. 25, very suddenly, at his house in Belgrave place, Sir FRANCIS CHANTREY, the eminent sculptor.

Nov. 23, at his residence at Banbury, in his 47th year, the Rev. JOHN CALLAWAY, Wesleyan minister.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, November 26.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 Wm. IV., cap. 85:—Baptist chapel, Lutterworth, Leicestershire. S. Mash, superintendent registrar.

INSOLVENTS.

LAURIER, ADOLPHE, and LOCK, JOSEPH, Wood street, city, importers of foreign goods, Nov. 26.

SHUTE, ABRAHAM, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, clothier, Nov. 25.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

SEARLE, COOPER, Bury St. Edmund's, printer.

BANKRUPTS.

BARNES, WILLIAM, St. Paul's church yard, City milliner, to surrender Dec. 11, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Turner and Hensman, 8, Basing lane.

BAZLEY, JOHN HILTON, Manchester, warehouseman, Dec. 15, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. G. Hadfield, Manchester, and Messrs. Johnson and Co., 7, King's bench walk, Temple, London.

BROWN, JOHN, Birmingham, victualler, Dec. 10, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. E. A. Chaplin, 3, Gray's inn square, London, and Mr. A. Harrison, Birmingham.

EVANS, SAMUEL, Read, Somersetshire, clothier, Dec. 9, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. H. Miller, Frome Selwood, and Mr. Frampton, 2, South square, Gray's inn, London.

GREEVES, HENRY, late of Kenilworth, and now of Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, timber merchant, Dec. 6, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. Cary, 13, St. Swithin's lane, London, and Mr. G. M. P. Kitchin, Warwick.

GRIFFIN, JAMES, Dudley, Worcestershire, upholsterer, Dec. 6, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. Combe, 13, Staple inn, London, and Mr. W. Fellowes, jun., Dudley.

HEY, JOSEPH, New Pellon, Yorkshire, carpenter, Dec. 14, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. E. M. Wavell, Halifax, and Messrs. Adlington and Co., 1, Bedford row, London.

HIGGINBOTTOM, SAMUEL, Dukinfield, Cheshire, shopkeeper, Dec. 11, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Rickards and Walker, 29, Lincoln's inn fields, London, and Messrs. Higginbottom and Co., Ashton-under-Lyne.

HUNT, ROBERT HOLDSWORTH CAREW, and SMITH, EDWARD OSBORNE, Old Broad street, City, and Hamburg, merchants, Dec. 11, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Heathcote and Holman, Coleman street.

KERR, HENRY THOMAS COGGAN, BAUGHAN, JOHN HENRY, and HAINES, THOMAS TURGIS, Suffolk street, Pall mall east, army agents, Dec. 6, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Pain and Hatherly, 5, Great Marlborough street.

LEECH, EDWARD, Rinderhill, Lancashire, cotton spinner, Dec. 17, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Clarke and Medcalf, 20, Lincoln's inn fields, and Messrs. Sharpe and Co., 41, Bedford row, London, Messrs. T. A. and J. Grundy, Bury, and Mr. F. Grundy, Manchester.

LYSTER, THOMAS, Manchester, corn and flour factor, Dec. 16, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Johnson and Co., Temple, London, and Messrs. Higgin and Son, Manchester.

NOCK, THOMAS, Oldbury, Shropshire, coal master, Dec. 7, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. E. A. Chaplin, Gray's inn, London, and Mr. A. Harrison, Birmingham.

PENNINGTON, WILLIAM, late of Bollington, but now of Marple, Cheshire, grocer, Dec. 16, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Milne and Co., Temple, London, and Mr. Walmsley, Marple.

RICHARDSON, CHARLES, Branley, Surrey, builder, Dec. 14, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Blackmore and Co., New inn, London.

SCHWABACHER, LEOPOLD, North American coffee house, Minories, city, wine merchant, Dec. 7, Jan. 7: solicitor, Mr. Spiller, 8, Bank buildings, Lothbury.

WOOD, JOSEPH, Manchester, lace dealer, Dec. 17, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. Yallop, 8, Furnival's inn, London, and Messrs. W. and S. Parsons, Nottingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

M'GILL, JAMES, Glasgow, provision merchant, Dec. 1 and 22.

PAGE, WILLIAM, Alloa, merchant, Dec. 1 and 22.

REACH, RODERICK, London, late of Inverness, solicitor, Dec. 6 and 27.

RUSSELL, ROBERT, Annfield, near Glasgow, brickmaker, Nov. 29, Dec. 30.

WHIGHAM, GEORGE, Hallidayhill, Dumfriesshire, coal merchant, Dec. 3 and 24.

DIVIDENDS.

Dec. 17, Savage, Epsom, Surrey, and Surrey street, Strand, lodging-house keeper and scrivener—Dec. 17, Dauncy, Coaley mills, Gloucester, woollen manufacturer—Dec. 20, Clarence and Chaldecott, Abchurch yard, coffee dealers—Dec. 20, Appleton, Three Crown square, Southwark, hop merchant—Dec. 20, Lawson, Oxford street, carpet and furniture warehouseman—Dec. 17, Carter, Cheapside and Aldermanbury, City, woollen draper—Dec. 17, Hall, Piccadilly, upholsterer—Dec. 17, Leary, 814, Quadrant, Regent street, coffee-house keeper—Dec. 17, Goldschmidt and Co., Great St. Helen's, City, merchants—Dec. 20, Ward, Saffron Walden, Essex, carpenter—Dec. 20, Atkinson, of Temple Sowerby, Westmoreland, and Laidman, Penrith, Cumberland, bankers—Dec. 20, Root, Warrington, Oxfordshire, draper—Dec. 20, Rimmer, Liverpool, tailor—Dec. 22, Sarson, Birmingham, and Dudley port, Staffordshire, iron master—March 21, Caparn, Riddings, Derbyshire, common brewer—Dec. 20, Crutchett, Stroud, Gloucestershire, pawnbroker—Dec. 28, Skillman and Keeler, Hythe, Kent, linen drapers—Dec. 17, Browning and Smelt, Manchester, merchants—Dec. 22, Shaw, Heanor, Derbyshire, plumber—Dec. 22, Timings, Birmingham, grocer—Dec. 21, Ditchfield, Hindley, Lancashire, cotton spinner—Jan. 20, Stocks, sen., Heaton Mersey, Lancashire, manufacturer—Dec. 18, Heginbottom, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, cotton spinner—Dec. 22, Fothergill, Rochdale, Lancashire, cotton spinner—Dec. 20, Wright, Coalbrook dale, Shropshire, draper and grocer.

CERTIFICATES—Dec. 17.

Cockcroft, Addingham, Yorkshire, stuff manufacturer—Little, Stockport, Cheshire, lately of Hulme and Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, banker—Quarterman, Wanstead

Essex, coach builder—Root, Waddington, Oxfordshire, draper—Gillies, Hartlepool, Durham, ship owner and merchant—Wood, Chester, innkeeper—Jackson and Singleton, Leeds, carriers—Williams, Liverpool, timber merchant.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Shave and Taylor, 110, Fenchurch street, attorneys—J. R. and W. W. Wheeler, Wokingham, Berkshire, attorneys—Biles and Co., 17, Bishopsgate street without, woollen drapers (so far as regards Plowman)—J. and G. Hinchliff, Holmfirth, Yorkshire, merchants—J. and L. Sternes, Yalding, Kent, farmers—Boothroyd and Co., Ing mill, Batley Carr, Yorkshire, scribbling and fulling millers (so far as regards T. Fozard)—Chant and Heard, Bridgewater, Somersetshire, smiths—Judd and Cotterell, Warwick, drapers—Liddon and Howard, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, wine merchants—Bridge and Hargreaves, Tottington Lower end, Lancashire, cotton spinners—Swift and Cramp-ton, Manchester, haberdashers—Dunncliff and Wild, Basford, Nottinghamshire, lace dressers—T. and B. Swift, Monmouth, timber merchants—Wright and Lavers, Bristol, lithographers—Balls and Malpas, Scott's wharf, Bankside, Southwark, and Nottingham, iron and tin plate merchants—Brown and Ansdell, Liverpool, attorneys—Bingham and Bush, safety beacon constructors—Sharpus and Co., Cockspur street, and Warwick street, Charing cross, china dealers (so far as regards F. Sharpus)—Hall and Co., Cold Wall and Meanwood, Lancashire, woollen printers—Miller and Campion, Stockton, Durham, rope and sail cloth manufacturers—Wilson and Co., Kingston-upon-Hull, merchants.

Tuesday, November, 30.

INSOLVENTS.

BACON, ROBERT, and WAYMAN, ROBERT, 15, Barbican, wire workers, Nov. 30.
DOD, CHARLES, Riches court, Lime street, City, ship broker, Nov. 29.

HUNT, HENRY CAREW, Hamburg, and Old Broad street, London, merchant, Nov. 30.

BANKRUPTS.

ADAMS, EDMUND, Blenheim street, New Bond street, livery stable keeper, Dec. 6, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Yates and Turner, 14, Duke street, Westminster.

ALGAR, STANNARD, Reading, Berkshire, common brewer, Dec. 8, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Weedon and Slocombe, Reading, and Mr. Henry Rivington Hill, 23, Throgmorton street, London.

BERNILL, BARTHOLOMEW, Liverpool, merchant, Dec. 11, Jan. 11: solicitors, Mr. John Yates, jun., Liverpool, and Messrs. Holme and Co., New inn, London.

BURTON, WILLIAM, now or late of Nuneaton and Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire, tanner, Dec. 11, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Battye and Co., 20, Chancery lane, London, and G. W. Craddock, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

BUCKLE, JOHN, Terrace, Kensington, tea dealer, Dec. 6, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Hill and Matthews, 4, New London street, Fenchurch street.

CAREY, HENRY, Nottingham, and CAREY, GEORGE DANIEL, Basford, Nottinghamshire, hat manufacturers, Dec. 4, Jan. 11: solicitors, Mr. Rowland Yallop, 8, Furnival's inn, London, and Messrs. W. and S. Parsons, jun., Nottingham.

COOK, ALLEN, Manchester, commission agent, Dec. 15, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Adlington and Co., Bedford row, London, and Messrs. Clay and Co., Manchester.

GILES, THOMAS, 33, St. John's lane, Clerkenwell, wire worker, Dec. 6, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Crosby and Compton, 3, Church court, Old Jewry.

GODDARD, REYNOLD HOGG, 78, Wood street, City, fringe maker, Dec. 14, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Rickards and Walker, Lincoln's inn fields.

GOOLDEN, RICHARD, Welchpool, Montgomeryshire, carrier, Dec. 17, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Milne and Co., Temple, London, and Mr. William Yearsley, Welchpool.

LAMPERT, WILLIAM, and BLATCH, WILLIAM, Grove place, Brompton, printers, Dec. 6, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr. Boulton, 21, Northampton square.

LOUNDES, JAMES HUGH, Manchester, wine merchant, Dec. 16, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Johnson and Co., King's Bench walk, Temple, London, and Mr. John Hewitt, Manchester.

MARSHALL, JOHN, Birchin lane, City, merchant, Dec. 14, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Willis and Co., 6, Tokenhouse yard.

MILES, WILLIAM, and DAWKINS, JOSEPH, Southampton, boot and shoe makers, Dec. 17, Jan. 11: solicitors, Mr. Walker, Southampton street, Bloomsbury square, London, and Messrs. Deacon and Long, Southampton.

MORGAN, EDWARD MORRIS, Welchpool, Montgomeryshire, barytes manufacturer, Dec. 17, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Milne and Co., Temple, London, and Mr. William Yearsley, Welchpool.

OLIVER, BENJAMIN, and GOODWIN, WILLIAM, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, drapers, Dec. 7, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr. W. H. Ashurst, Chancery.

PIEBHAM, THOMAS, Parker street, Drury lane, smith and spring maker, Dec. 11, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Mayhew and Co., Carey street, Lincoln's inn fields.

PRITCHARD, ROBERT, Bangor, Carnarvonshire, druggist, Dec. 17, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Abbott and Co., 8, New Inn, Wych street, Strand, London, and Messrs. Poole and Powell, Carnarvon.

SMETHURST, JAMES, Manchester, small ware manufacturer, Dec. 17, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Walmsley and Co., 43, Chancery lane, London, and Messrs. Humphrys and Co., Manchester.

UNSWORTH, JOSEPH, Liverpool, joiner, Dec. 11, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Holme and Co., New inn, London, and Mr. Booker, Liverpool.

WAINMAN, THOMAS, Leeds, dyer, Dec. 9, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Few and Co., 2, Henrietta street, Covent garden, London, and Mr. Upton, Leeds.

WALKER, RICHARD COLLIS, Newbold-more, Derbyshire, earthenware manufacturer, Dec. 24, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs. Lucas and Co., Chesterfield, Derbyshire, and Messrs. Spence and Bullivant, 32, Alfred place, Bedford square, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERS.

ANDERSON, DAVID, Montrose, merchant, Dec. 4, 25.

FINDLEY, J. and J., Glasgow, merchants, and of Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire, and Spring vale, Lanarkshire, cotton spinners, Dec. 6, 27.

M'LACHLAN, JOHN, and M'LACHLAN, WILLIAM, Coatbridge, china and general merchants, Dec. 6, 27.

DIVIDENDS.

Dec. 23, J. and G. F. Squires, Emmett street, Poplar, plumbers—Dec. 23, Hopkins, Croydon, Surrey, grocer—Dec. 23, S. and R. S. Mulley, Little Bartholomewclose, West Smithfield, stone masons—Dec. 23, Daly, Red Lion square, bookseller—Dec. 21, Tagg, Tooley street, Southwark, slopseller—Dec. 23, Brett, Stoke Bardolph, Nottinghamshire, corn factor—Dec. 21, Kirby and Co., Sheffield, silver platers—Dec. 28, Capron, Bedford, draper—Dec. 22, Cope, Birmingham, scrivener.

CERTIFICATES—Dec. 21.

Wood, Basinghall street, London, dealer in woollen cloths—M'Ardle, Liverpool, victualler—Taylor, Norwich, apothecary—Morris, Birmingham, victualler—Staite, Wood street, Cheapside, lace and fancy warehouseman—Wardall, late of 28, Carey street, Lincoln's inn, lodginghouse keeper—Crowther, Liverpool, wine merchant—Lawton, Liverpool, shoe maker.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Dance and Lewis, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, malsters—M. and S. Gerrard, Ardwick, Lancashire, lodging housekeepers—S. and T. Harwood, Dogpole, Shropshire, accountants—Gwillim and Mansall, 14, Devonshire square, City, wine merchants—M'Leod and Thompson, Cold Harbour lane, Camberwell, common brewers—Roskell and Co., Flint, lead smelters, refiners, and alkali manufacturers, and Liverpool, lead merchants (so far as regards J. B. Tipton)—Shingler and James, Liverpool, linen drapers—Brunton and Williams, formerly of 5, Frederick place, Goswell street road, and latterly of 96, High street, Whitechapel, brush makers and general warehousemen—Coleman and Parkes, Atherstone, Warwickshire, chemists—Hooper and Gibbons, licensed victuallers—C. and S. Lutley, Exeter and Wiveliscombe, Somersetshire, hop and seed merchants and common brewers—Steward and Thomas, Little Stanhope street, Mayfair, carpenters—Barker and Co., Tynemouth, Northumberland, attorneys—Potter and Co., Manchester, general Manchester warehousemen (so far as regards R. Potter)—Foster and Ellis, Liverpool, general brass founders—W. and J. B. Grierson, Bridgenorth, Shropshire, linen drapers—Webster and Co., 36, Charterhouse square, Middlesex, wholesale booksellers (so far as regards G. Webster)—M'Call and Ross, jun., Glasgow and Manchester, manufacturers and warehousemen.

BRITISH FUNDS.

There have been some rather large operations in the market for the public securities during the week; but none singly exceeding £100,000 in amount. The settlement of the consol account occupied the principal portion of the attention of the dealers and jobbers on Thursday and Friday, the former being the account day, and the latter the pay day. Stamped exchequer bills have been on the rise. India and bank stocks have rather declined.

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FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	—	Mexican	25½
Belgian	100½	Peruvian	14½
Brazilian	58½	Portuguese 5 per cents	49
Buenos Ayres	—	Ditto 3 per cents	19½
Columbian	20	Russian	—
Danish	—	Spanish Active	23½
Dutch 2½ per cents	53	Ditto Passive	5½
Ditto 5 per cents	99½	Ditto Deferred	13

SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton	36½
Birmingham and Derby	50	London and Croydon Trunk ..	11½
Birmingham and Gloucester ..	56	London and Greenwich	6½
Blackwall	9	Ditto New	17½
Bristol and Exeter	28	Manchester and Birmingham ..	23
Cheltenham and Gt. Western ..	7½	Manchester and Leeds	57
Eastern Counties	7½	Midland Counties	82
Edinburgh and Glasgow	—	Ditto Quarter Shares	21
Great North of England	—	North Midland	66
Great Western	80	Ditto New	33
Ditto New	57½	South Eastern and Dover	—
Ditto Fifties	8½	South Western	56½
London and Birmingham	157	Ditto New	26½
Ditto Quarter Shares	22		

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, Nov. 29.

The supplies of English wheat and flour during the past week have been moderate, and for this day's market not large; the quality is not much improved, owing to the unsettled state of the weather. The trade for English wheat is heavy at the prices of this day week, but there is a little more inquiry for foreign wheat.

Flour is a heavy sale, and the price of best town marks, 60s.; households, 52s. to 55s. Ship flour is in fair supply, and worth 48s. to 52s. per sack.

Of barley we have not a very large fresh supply; best qualities sell freely at last week's prices, but the inferior

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Nov. 27.—At per load of 36 trusses.			
Coarse Meadow Hay.....	80s. to 85s.	New Clover Hay.....	90s. to 115s.
New ditto	80 .. 90	Old ditto	100 .. 120
Useful old ditto	86 .. 90	Oat Straw	36 .. 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass	92 .. 95	Wheat Straw	38 .. 40

COAL EXCHANGE, Nov. 29.

Stewart's, 22s.; Hetton's, 21s. 9d.; Lambton's, 21s. 9d.; Haswell's, 21s. 9d. 100 fresh ships.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, Nov. 30.

TEA.—There have been public sales of about 4,000 packages of tea to-day, not above one half of which has found buyers; 2,000 packages only having passed, and the rest being withdrawn, so that the sales have terminated. The quotations realised were a shade lower than those we gave for the last series. Company's Congou is about 1s. 9d. per lb. cash.

COFFEE.—Of 1,100 bags casks (chiefly Company's Java) at auction, only about one-fourth part found buyers at 59s. to 61s. for fresh fine ordinary greenish (Demerara kind), being barely the comparative value.

SUGAR.—A moderate business continues to be done in B. Plantation, considering the limited quantity on show (particularly of the better sorts), about 450 hhds. having been sold at extreme prices, and the market has been firm. There has been a public sale of 520 bags Bengal which sold very briskly at 57s. 6d. to 75s. for low yellow to good white, which rates establish an advance of 2s. to 3s. on the late public sales. The quantity of British Plantation landed last week at the West India Dock was 137 hhds. 3 tierces, and there were taken for home consumption 1456 hhds. 106 tierces; the stock in the same place is 10,812 hhds. 1696 tierces.

TALLOW.—The demand for this article has considerably increased, and prices were again rather higher, with rather an active market. 48s. to 48s. 6d. paid for fine yellow Candle on the spot. The deliveries were large, but as the stock continued heavy, no thought of high prices was entertained.

ADVERTISEMENT.

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Neatly bound in cloth, gilt, price £1 6s. Royal Paper, cloth, gilt, £2.

A GUIDE TO FAMILY DEVOTION; containing 730 HYMNS, 730 PRAYERS, and 730 PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE, with suitable REFLECTIONS. Also, AN APPENDIX, comprising a great variety of Prayers to suit particular days, seasons, circumstances, and events of Providence. The whole arranged to form a distinct and complete Service for every Morning and Evening in the Year. By the Rev. ALEXANDER FLETCHER, author of "Scripture History," "Lectures to Children," "Cottager's Friend," &c. Embellished with a Portrait and Fifteen Engravings.

Rev. W. B. COLLYER, D.D., Peckham,
Rev. G. COLLISON, D.D., Hackney,

Rev. J. DAVIES, Bristol,
Rev. S. RANSOM, Hackney,

Rev. G. LEGGE, Bristol,
Rev. H. CALDERWOOD, Kendal,

Rev. J. GILBERT, Islington,
Rev. J. E. GOOD, Gosport.

Extract from a Letter by the Rev. J. Harris, D.D., author of "Mammon."

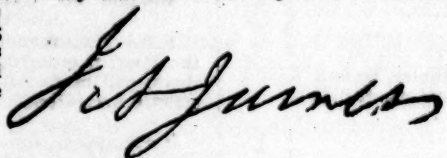
The conception and arrangement of the work are admirable; and as far as I have had the opportunity of judging, the execution of it equals the plan. I have read various parts of it attentively; and while I have not met with anything which I could wish to have been omitted, most unfeignedly can I say that I have found much calculated to inspire and sustain devotion.

Epsom.



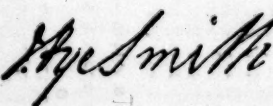
A superficial survey of it, ("A Guide to Family Devotion,") is sufficient to manifest that its plan is the most complete of any with which I am acquainted, embracing everything which the service of the family altar requires, or admits of; while its execution is also such as to entitle it to commendation, and secure for it the circulation and use which it deserves.

Birmingham.



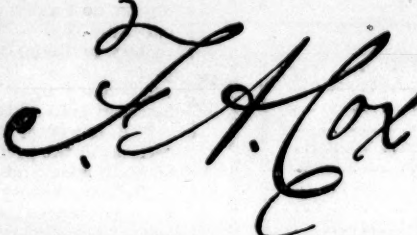
I feel it right to express my opinion that the plan is excellent; and that the execution of the plan is judicious, and well adapted to its purpose, as an aid to the great duty and blessing of family, conjugal, and secret worship.

Homerton.



It is not till after a careful perusal that I gave an opinion of Mr. Fletcher's "Guide to Family Devotion." This I do now with great pleasure; believing it to be a work eminently calculated for beneficial circulation in Christian families, to whom I would earnestly recommend it.

Hackney.



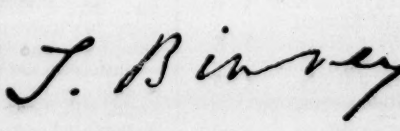
I am enabled to speak with propriety and confidence of the real worth and admirable adaptation to usefulness of your work. I have used it much in my own family, and I can truly say that as I advance it grows in my esteem. You have rendered a most important service to Christian households by your labours, and I have no doubt that its circulation will be as extensive as your most sanguine expectations could anticipate.

Liverpool.



On examination, I am much pleased with it, ("A Guide to Family Devotion,") and feel, when I am called to leave my family, that I leave for its use a good substitute behind me.

Weigh-House.



In addition to the numerous Testimonials of English Ministers, nearly One Hundred of the most influential Clergymen of AMERICA—of all denominations—have testified, by letter, their high commendation of the excellence and great utility of the above Work

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The House and Premises are admirably adapted for a School, with Four Acres of Pasture-land adjoining; also a large Garden and a productive Orchard.

Any gentleman of Dissenting principles, having a small capital at his command, will find this an excellent opportunity of commencing on his own account, with encouraging prospects of success.

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BEDDOME'S FEVER POWDERS, a safe and ready Diaphoretic for all Ages, and a valuable Medicine for Colds and Influenza.

Sold, 13d. per packet, by T. Butler, 4, Cheapside; Sanger and Co., 150, Oxford street; Sutton and Co., Bow Church Yard; Edwards, St. Paul's; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon Street, London; Davenport and Steadman, Waterloo Place, Edinburgh.

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Worcester Journal (estab. 1709)	46,000
Worcester Herald (estab. 1794)	53,750
Worcestershire Guardian (estab. 1835)	9,000
Ten Towns' Messenger (estab. 1836)	36,000

From the above it will be seen that, though the WORCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE has not yet completed its fourth year, it has gained the second place among its contemporaries in point of circulation; while the following Official Returns of the Advertisement Duty paid from January 5 to July 5, 1841, show that it has far outstripped two of its contemporaries in number of advertisements:—

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